

Kimmy Gold

Biography

At four years-old when most of her peers were into toys and ring games, Kimberlyn Goldson was drawn to music. She began learning to play the piano at that age, and it remains her instrument of choice as musician Kimmy Gold.

Largely self-taught, Kimmy has steadfastly etched out a career as a musician and singer in Jamaican roots-reggae. She has toured Europe with the Uprising Roots Band and recently released her first songs, *Balance* and the aptly-titled *Can't be Ungrateful to Reggae Music*.

Her development as a musician came to the fore on both songs. She sang, played keyboards and co-produced them; they were released just before she left for her first solo dates in Switzerland.

According to Kimmy, the sessions for *Balance* and *Can't be Ungrateful to Reggae* were “a fulfilling experience.”

Kimmy Gold was born in St. Ann, a rural parish in north-east Jamaica that has produced a number of outstanding Jamaican artistes, most notably Bob Marley. Burning Spear and Shabba Ranks are also from that region.

While studying to be a teacher, she maintained her ties to music by practicing and listening to her biggest influences: Judy Mowatt, Rita Marley, Marcia Griffiths, Ziggy Marley and The Melody Makers and The Gladiators.

In 2015 came her biggest musical assignment to date. She toured Europe with Uprising Roots Band who were promoting their *Skifiya* album. The last four years has seen Kimmy Gold concentrating on her solo career, a persistence that has paid dividends with *Balance* and *Can't be Ungrateful to Reggae Music*.

Her shows in Switzerland are further proof that Kimmy Gold is an emerging artiste to watch.

Howard Campbell – Jamaica Observer