



Dionne Warwick

A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT

Scintillating, soothing and sensual best describe the familiar and legendary voice of five-time Grammy Award winning music legend, Dionne Warwick, who has become a cornerstone of American pop music and culture. Warwick's career, which currently celebrates over 50 years, has established her as an international music icon and concert act. Over that time, she has earned 75 charted hit songs and sold over 100 million records.

She began singing professionally in 1961 after being discovered by a young songwriting team, Burt Bacharach and Hal David. She had her first hit in 1962 with "Don't Make Me Over." Less than a decade later, she had released more than 18 consecutive Top 100 singles, including her classic Bacharach/David recordings, "Walk on By," "Anyone Who Had a Heart," "Message to Michael," "Promises, Promises," "A House is Not a Home," "Alfie," "Say a Little Prayer," "This Girl's in Love With You," "I'll Never Fall in Love Again," "Reach Out For Me," and the theme from "Valley of the Dolls." Together, Warwick and her songwriting team of Burt Bacharach & Hal David, accumulated more than 30 hit singles, and close to 20 best-selling albums, during their first decade together.

Warwick received her first Grammy Award in 1968 for her mega-hit, "Do You Know the Way to San Jose?" and a second Grammy Award in 1970 for the best-selling album, "I'll Never Fall in Love Again." She became the first African-American solo female artist of her generation to win the prestigious award for Best Contemporary Female Vocalist Performance. This award was only presented to one other legend, Miss Ella Fitzgerald. Other African-American female recording artists certainly earned their share of crossover pop and R&B hits during the 1960s, however, Warwick preceded the mainstream success of her musical peers by becoming the first such artist to rack up a dozen consecutive Top 100 hit singles from 1963-1966.

Warwick's performance at the Olympia Theater in Paris, during a 1963 concert starring the legendary Marlene Dietrich, skyrocketed her to international stardom. As Warwick established herself as a major force in American contemporary music, she gained popularity among European audiences as well. In 1968, she became the first solo African-American artist among her peers to sing before the Queen of England at a Royal Command Performance. Since then, Warwick has performed before numerous kings, queens, presidents and heads of state.

Warwick's recordings of songs such as "A House is not a Home," "Alfie," "Valley of the Dolls," and "The April Fools," made her a pioneer as one of the first female artists to popularize classic movie themes.

Warwick began singing during her childhood years in East Orange, New Jersey, initially in church. Occasionally, she sang as a soloist and fill-in voice for the renowned Drinkard Singers, a group comprised of her mother Lee, along with her aunts, including Aunt Cissy, Whitney Houston's mom, and her uncles. During her teens, Warwick and her sister Dee Dee started their own gospel group, The Gospelairees.

Warwick attended The Hartt College of Music in Hartford, Connecticut, and during that time, began making trips to New York to do regular session work. She sang behind many of the biggest recording stars of the 1960s including Dinah Washington, Sam Taylor, Brook Benton, Chuck Jackson, and Solomon Burke, among many others. It was at this time that a young composer named Burt Bacharach heard her sing during a session for The Drifters and asked her to sing on demos of some new songs he was writing with his new lyricist Hal David. In 1962, one such demo was presented to Scepter Records, which launched a hit-filled 12-year association with the label.

Known as the artist who "bridged the gap," Warwick's soulful blend of pop, gospel and R&B music transcended race, culture, and musical boundaries. In 1970, Warwick received her second Grammy Award for the best-selling album, "I'll Never Fall In Love Again," and began her second decade of hits with Warner Bros. Records. She recorded half a dozen albums, with top producers such as Thom Bell, Holland-Dozier-Holland, Jerry Ragavoy, Steve Barri, and Michael Omartian. In 1974, she hit the top of the charts with "Then Came You," a million-selling duet with The Spinners. She then teamed up with Isaac Hayes for a highly successful world tour, "A Man and a Woman."

In 1976, Warwick signed with Arista Records, beginning a third decade of hit-making. Arista Records label-mate Barry Manilow produced her first Platinum-selling album, "Dionne," which included back-to-back hits "I'll Never Love This Way Again," and "Déjà vu." Both recordings earned Grammy Awards, making Warwick the first female artist to win the Best Female Pop and Best Female R&B Performance Awards.

Warwick's 1982 album, "Heartbreaker," co-produced by Barry Gibb and the Bee Gees, became an international chart-topper. In 1985, she reunited with composer Burt Bacharach and longtime friends Gladys Knight, Elton John and Stevie Wonder to record the landmark song "That's What Friends Are For," which became a number one hit record around the world and the first recording dedicated to raising awareness and major funds (over \$3 Million) for the AIDS cause in support of AMFAR, which Warwick continues to support.

Throughout the 1980's and 1990's, Warwick collaborated with many of her musical peers, including Johnny Mathis, Smokey Robinson, Luther Vandross, Jeffrey Osborne, Kashif and Stevie Wonder. Warwick was also host of the hit television music show, "Solid Gold." In addition, she recorded several theme songs, including "Champagne Wishes & Caviar Dreams," for the popular television series "Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous," and "The Love Boat," for the hit series from Aaron Spelling. In November, 2006 Warwick recorded an album of duets, "My Friends & Me," for Concord Records, a critically acclaimed Gospel album, "Why We Sing," for Rhino/Warner Records, and a new jazz album, "Only Trust Your Heart," a collection of standards, celebrating the music of legendary composer Sammy Cahn for Sony Red/MPCA Records.

Additionally, in September 2008, Warwick added "author" to her list of credits with two best-selling children's books, "Say A Little Prayer," and "Little Man," and her first best-selling autobiography, "My Life As I See It" for Simon & Schuster.

Always one to give back, Warwick has supported and campaigned for many causes and charities close to her heart, including AIDS, The Starlight Foundation, children's hospitals, world hunger, disaster relief and music education for which she has been recognized and honored and has raised millions of dollars. In 1987, she was appointed the first United States Ambassador of Health by President Ronald Reagan and in 2002, served as Global Ambassador for Health and Ambassador for the United Nations' Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), and she continues to serve as Ambassador today. In recognition of her accomplishments and support of education, a New Jersey school was named in her honor, the Dionne Warwick Institute for Economics and Entrepreneurship. Warwick was also a key participating artist in the all-star charity single, "We Are the World," and in 1984, performed at "Live Aid."

Celebrating 50 years in entertainment, and the 25th Anniversary of "That's What Friends Are For," Warwick hosted and headlined an all-star benefit concert for World Hunger Day in London. In addition, she was honored by AMFAR in a special reunion performance of "That's What Friends are For," alongside Elton John, Gladys Knight and Stevie Wonder at AMFAR's Anniversary Gala in New York City. Warwick also received the prestigious 2011 Steve Chase Humanitarian Arts & Activism Award by the Desert

Aids Project and was recognized for her stellar career by Clive Davis at his legendary Pre-Grammy Award Party in Los Angeles. Adding to her list of landmark honors, Warwick was a 2013 recipient of the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor in New York and was inducted into the 2013 New Jersey Hall of Fame.

On March 26, 2012, Warwick was inducted into the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles, where a special 50th Anniversary exhibit was unveiled and a historic program and performance was held in the Clive Davis Theater. Additionally, a panel discussion with Clive Davis and Burt Bacharach was hosted by Grammy Museum Executive Director, Bob Santelli.

Commemorating her 50th Anniversary, Warwick released a much-anticipated studio album in 2013, entitled “NOW.” Produced by the legendary Phil Ramone, the anniversary album was nominated for a 2014 Grammy Award for Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album. “NOW” featured special never-before-released material written by her longtime friends and musical collaborators, Burt Bacharach and Hal David.

Most recently, Warwick released a much anticipated star-studded duets album titled “Feels So Good,” featuring collaborations with some of today’s greatest artists including Alicia Keys, Jamie Foxx, Billy Ray Cyrus, Ne-Yo, Gladys Knight, Cee Lo Green, Cyndi Lauper and many more. “Feels So Good” was released through Bright Music Records, Caroline and Capitol.

Warwick’s pride and joy are her two sons, singer/recording artist David Elliott and award-winning music producer Damon Elliott, and her family.