

## BIOGRAPHY: GWEN HUGHES

[www.gwenhughes.com](http://www.gwenhughes.com)

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"Imagine if Cassandra Wilson and Tina Turner somehow combined genetic material...Gwen Hughes is an exciting talent." (*Wildy's World*, 2012).

Gwen Hughes has released six albums on **Fairfield Records**, starting with "Torch Life" in the 1990s up until her newest album, "**Dancing in the Moonlight**," recorded with her European band, MONO, featuring the greatest hits of their ten years of touring Eastern Europe. Her latest release, "**Watch the Moon**," is due for release in late 2015 and features the haunting single, "Watch the Moon," entered in the 2015 **Grammys** for **Best Americana Roots Performance**.

Along the way, she has crooned from **Paris to Istanbul**, collaborated on a film about Elvis impersonators ("**We Three Kings**"), and appeared as a character in a **detective novel** (Phillip DePoy's, Dancing Made Easy, published by Dell.)

But her music doesn't stop with CD sales...it has had wider exposure in multiple media, supplemented by her own TV and film appearances. From Tyler Perry's "**House of Payne**" to The Travel Channel's "**Faked Out**," Gwen has been in front of the camera as an actor. As a songwriter, her tunes have been in films like "**The Love Orchard**" (2012), "**Crazy Eyes**" (2012) and on TV shows like "**Man vs. Wild**" (Discovery Channel) and "**Big Ang**" (VH1).

Offstage, Gwen is Board Governor with **The Recording Academy**; Atlanta's **Grammy Foundation** Ambassador (preserving the American music heritage); **Johnny Mercer** "Artist in Residence" with the former GA Music Hall of Fame; board member of Georgia Music Partners; and partner with **Zac Brown's** Camp Southern Ground on providing a place for kids with autism to play and thrive.

She is also an advocate for music education all over the world, working with students of all ages in the US, Morocco, Kenya, Slovenia, and France. As Grammy Foundation Ambassador, Gwen, along with the "How Big Is Your Dream?! Foundation," helped Towers High School (Atlanta) receive \$5500 in funding for their music program (the Grammy in the School's "Enterprise Award" for deserving schools in economically-challenged areas). She is on The Education Committee for The Recording Academy in Atlanta.

2012 also saw Gwen cast in the world premiere of **Stephen King and John Mellencamp's Ghost Brothers of Darkland County**, with music production by T-Bone Burnette. The show opened to generally favorable reviews, with Gwen going on multiple times as the wife of **Tony-winner**, Shuler Hensley. The show toured the United States twice, closing in December 2014 in San Francisco.

