

Throwback: Randy Crawford-Rio De Janeiro Blue



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Randy Crawford was born Macon, Georgia and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio. After high school she began to gig at local clubs and once performed with a band that included Bootsy Collins. In the early '70's she toured as an opening act for George Benson and later attracted the attention of Cannonball Adderley. She sang on Adderley's *Big Man* album and spent a brief time signed to CBS Records where she recorded "Don't Get Caught-Up In Love." In 1976 she became a recording artist for Warner Brothers and her first album *Everything Must Change* came out. She was three albums deep in her solo career when she recorded ["Street Life"](#) with The Crusaders in 1979 and became known to the mainstream. They produced her 1980 album *Now We May Begin* that included the songs ["Last Night At Danceland"](#) and ["One Day I'll Fly Away."](#) "Rio De Janeiro Blue" is from her 1981 album *Secret Combination*. It is her most known album and she had success with ["Rainy Night In Georgia,"](#) ["Secret Combination"](#) and ["You Might Need Somebody"](#) in addition to "Rio De Janeiro Blue." She also appeared on the *Casino Lights* album that was recorded live in Montreux and she did a duet of ["Your Precious Love"](#) with Al Jarreau *Windsong* followed-up *Secret Combination* in 1982 and her cover of ["Imagine"](#) and the single ["One Hello"](#) both made the U.K. charts. She had a minor hit with ["Nightline"](#) in 1983 but received better notice in the American market because of the ["Taxi Dancing"](#) duet with Rick Springfield in 1984. *Abstract Emotions* from 1986 and *Rich and Poor* from 1989 produced ["Almaz,"](#) ["Desire"](#) and a hit duet of ["Knocking On Heaven's Door"](#) with Eric Clapton. *Through The Eyes of Love* found her singing a nice cover of Journey's ["Who's Crying Now"](#) with the

help of her friend Joe Sample. Her more than competent way with other people's material continued with the mostly covers album *Naked and True* where she sang her version of George Benson's ["Give Me The Night."](#) *Every Kind Of Mood* from 1997 was considered worthwhile for its take on Massive Attack's "Hymn Of The Big Wheel" and Aretha Franklin's "Johnny." Crawford's R&B cred went up again with the release of 2001's *Permanent* thanks to the ["Sweetest Thing,"](#) ["Fire and Rain"](#) and the [title track](#). Crawford's last two albums, *Feeling Good* and *No Regrets* were released in 2006 and 2008 and she worked with Joe Sample on both projects.