

Throwback: Gwen McCrae-Funky Sensation



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Gwen McCrae's 1981 "Funky Sensation" was the result of her brief stay involvement in dance music and a two-album contract with Atlantic Records. Songwriter/producer Kenton Nix was already having success in dance music with Taana Gardner when he wrote "Funky Sensation." McCrae's first time with national success happened in 1975 with the song ["Rockin' Chair"](#) and "Funky Sensation" reinvented her as a dance music artist and gave McCrae trans-generational appeal because of sampling culture. [Masters At Work](#) took the song to another era of dancefloor when they remixed it in 1994. The U.K.'s Northern Soul music scene discovered McCrae's lesser-known catalog and was a catalyst for the two albums she recorded for the Rhythm King label based there in the '80's. McCrae recorded for another European record company in the '90's and released a gospel album in 2005. The singer suffered a stroke while touring the U.K. in 2012 and a fundraiser was set-up to cover her medical expenses and travel back to the United States.