

# A Native of Los Angeles

## Miss Mims

*Singer/Songwriter*

I grew up knee deep in West Coast soul and funk

There were six of us kids in a modest two bedroom house where t.v. was not allowed. We invented our own shows , singing and dancing was the name of the game. We made pancakes together, braid each other's hair, told jokes and wrote songs. My big brother carried around his lyrics in a big black suitcase, at a moment notice he'd whip out his guitar and sing you a tune. Wasn't long before I was sing'n everybody my song 'Down In A Belly Of A Whale"

Like so many other aspiring artists in the town of pay to play , I did my share of movie extra work, waiting tables, & selling Cutco Knives, while picking up studio jobs and experimenting with different styles of music.

One day I played a couple of my tunes to a popular producer with several hit's under his belt. After re-winding the tune over & over he said, "This is very interesting, but you gotta write something simple & stupid if you want to sell records". Write about love.

I knew that what I was writing didn't fit neatly into the little black boxes that the A&R have in their offices above the Sunset strip.

Dylan said, "The world don't need another love song. I couldn't wait to visit the world outside of LA. I packed my bags & headed for Europe and didn't look back.

I visited London with dreams of playing the club circuit there . I visited Paris , Barcelona , Edinburgh , and Belgium . I found Dusseldorf .

At a street festival there I met Andrea Canta who invited me to a studio session with D.J. Adrenalin .

First worldwide hit happened in Dusseldorf, Germany in 1997. **Nalin & Kane "Beachball" feat. Shondell.** "Beachball" is still a Dance Anthem.

It is considered a classic trance track, and was notable for topping the club charts in many countries

*Nalin & Kane, "Beach Ball" featuring Shondell. The Summer of '97 was released by Sony Music. Tall Paul Remix re-release by London Records entered the charts at #4 in '98.*

I felt a new kind of freedom in Germany. People actually paid me to sing!

I found a new drive and a new audience. The funny thing about Germans is they never tire of saying Super! Super!

I could write songs about music, soul, confusion, depression, hate, war, whatever I felt like and they'd always say Super! Wonderbar!

They probably didn't understand me anyway! It was the liberation I needed. Not the applause.

Should I have been impressed or amused? Well one thing for sure, it gave me the chance (which I took) to write some meaningful and powerful songs.

I auditioned for an experimental band named Breeze one winter morning. I couldn't understand a word they were saying, but after I got over the damp stench of old beer cans & cigarette butts we actually made some pretty cool sounds.

Back in Dusseldorf I met and recorded with artists from Iran , Poland , England , France , writing house music , trip hop , neo-soul and rock .

Currently I am collaborating with B-Orange , aka Boris Hanser, on a collection of adult contemporary songs in the vein of Sheryl Crow / Tracy Chapman / Seal .

The list of D.J.s and producers that I work with includes : D.J. Ignace , KDS , D.J Baggy , Adam Kroll , D.J. Jerome , King Brain , Rosbeh Nagash and Jupp & Rick, Dee Dee O'Malley .

When I am not writing my heart out , recording back up vocals in dimly lit studios or giving vocal lessons , I keep myself busy with Glory Days, my Aretha Franklin Revue.