

MIRNA

« *Redemption* »

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Digital

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REGGAE | ROOTS | WORLD-MUSIC

Lately, a quivering anticipation has been building: A feature on reggae icon Meta Dia's album; another on the collective Jahzz album led by Jamaican veterans; a third on the deluxe version of fGuitar Chant, distinguished project of frenchman Kubix. An EP with Jamaican Rev. Tishion in 2022. All little teasers to make one hunger for more.

Here abouts *Redemption*, the new album by **Mirna** confirming what these recent collaborations of quality left one guessing: the thirty-something singer has the experience and the talent to carve a place for herself as a woman on the reggae scene. And she has notorious references in this field: **Judy Mowatt**, ex-vocalist for Bob Marley & The Wailers, whose album *Black Woman*-to this day- gives her shivers; or even, from a more contemporary generation, reggae woman **Dezarie** of Virgin Islands and her album *Gracious Mama Africa* in collaboration with the unclassifiable **Midnite**.

The relation **Mirna** has with reggae is as strong as it is deep. Our singer of Lebanese origin was raised in Ivory Coast, "the third capital of the reggae genre" she stresses. And, if this style of music is really just background there, she vividly remembers the day she truly felt its impact: It came to her like a revelation as she set foot into her big brother's room while he was listening to *Brigadier Sabari* by **Alpha Blondy**. After some time digesting all these influences on her life and finding her own path, she pops up in 2015 with her first album: *The Train of Changes*, co-produced by **Tiken Jah Fakoly** and destined to local markets. This had the benefit of opening up the doors for her to concerts during major reggae meet-ups in Africa, like the **Abi Reggae Festival**.



TRACKLISTING

- 01 - Redemption feat. Derajah
- 02 - Jah Guide
- 03 - Mousso feat. Jacin & Kubix
- 04 - Smooth Talker
- 05 - Once Upon A Time
- 06 - Easy
- 07 - Music is my soul
- 08 - Haffi Rise feat. Crosby
- 09 - Reggae Party
- 10 - Take me to Zion feat. Kubix



In order to get to her most recent achievement, which we discover today through ***Redemption***, **Mirna** has traveled the world of reggae. Starting with Jamaica, which is a must for any soul married to their music, and those who feel the need to be immersed in the creative energy that radiates from the island. To **Mirna**, her journey there was also in part because of the ancestral and cultural symbolism reuniting Western Africa to the Caribbean. As such, it's in Bob Marley's own country, and even in the **Tuff Gong studios** owned by the reggae kings' family, that she recorded two titles with the contribution of keyboardist **Robbie Lyn**, a pillar of Jamaican music: ska *Reggae Party*, and *Redemption*. The latter of which is sung as a duet with **Derajah**, and the song of which the name has later become the album title. The title is meant to evoke "rebirth", a way in which one can "*leave burdens behind in order to feel better and a soulful expression of personal growth and transformation*", explains the one who dedicated her first song in 2010 to Liberia - the homeland she had to flee with her family during the civil war and the place she finally returns to.

The next step in the development of ***Redemption*** is South Africa. The country occupies an important spot in the history of reggae thanks to Lucky Dube, whose songs continue to resonate throughout the continent. **Mirna** managed to secure a number of other recordings in a Cape Town studio, notably a duet with **Crosby**, a local reggae artist, and was accompanied by the Azania Band musicians, a formidable backing band often solicited in Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean.

Then we have the final destination, France, where our self-taught guitarist has come to reside in the last few years. Alongside **Kubix**, a central element of the French reggae scene, she continued her work in Paris. From studio work to stage performances, she underlines the role of her instructor and mentor, who by all accounts has shared with her all of his knowledge. Other encounters (for example **Tyrone Downie**, for the **Jahzz** project from which *Music Is My Soul* was issued) further broadened her horizons, allowing her to gain even more experience, going so far as to explore new directions, such as the nyabinghi performance *Take Me To Zion* with the percussionist **Manjul**.

In her own way, and through the ten songs in her ***Redemption*** album, **Mirna** honors diversity as much as the breadth of reggae.



NOUVEL ALBUM
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PRÉ-COMMANDE !
<https://Baco.lnk.to/Redemption>



MIRNA IS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS
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