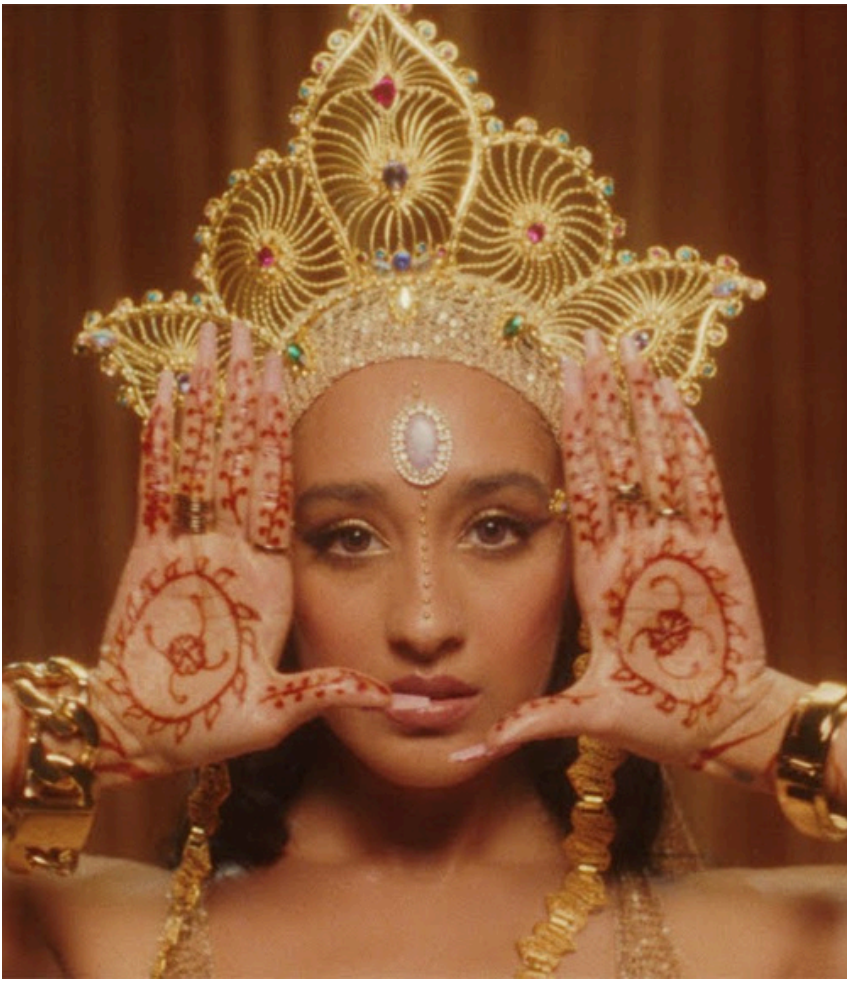
Raveena *Aurora*

May 2024



Benzai



Raveena Aurora, commonly known mononymously as Raveena, is an Indian American star and singer-songwriter. Raveena's music is influenced by both the R&B and soul music of her childhood as well as the Indian music of her heritage. Her story begins in Stamford, Connecticut, where she grew up.

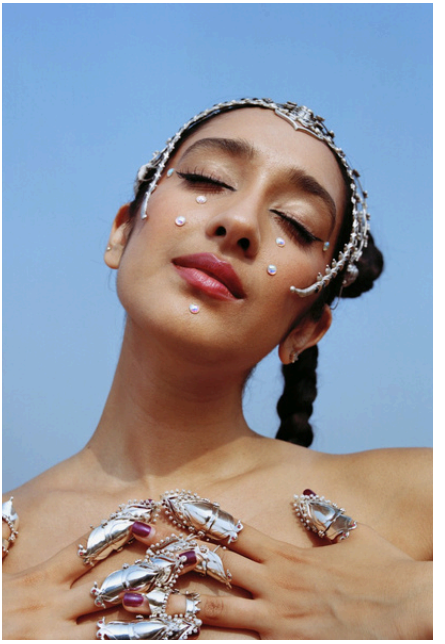




A child of Punjabi immigrants who left India after anti-Sikh uprisings in 1984, Raveena grew up exposed to music all around her. Drawing from the influence around her, she began singing as a child and found that music was her passion. In middle school, she was exposed to R&B, soul, and folk music, genres that would stay with her for the rest of her life.

As a young adult she went to the New York University Tisch School of the Arts, continuing to experience and experiment with genres. Raveena tried to find a place singing on Broadway and auditioning with numerous labels, however she faced great struggle in securing a contract or a role as there was "no place for a Brown girl" in the industry. This changed, of course, when she met Everett Orr in 2015.

Orr recognized the immense talent and potential that Raveena had and the two worked together and released numerous singles in 2016, such as “You Give Me That.” In 2017, she released her first extended play, Shanti, which was influenced by her R&B and soul roots as well as her journey in self-love as a woman of color, a journey many women of color aren’t afforded.







2018 was a big year for Raveena. She performed her lead single from her EP, “If Only,” for COLORS, a popular music performance platform, gaining her and the song great popularity. Later in the year, she announced the coming of her first tour, the Woman is Holy Tour. In November, she performed at Tyler, The Creator’s Camp Flog Gnaw Carnival, gaining even more acclaim.



On May 31, 2019, Raveena released her debut studio album, Lucid.

On Lucid, she shared her vulnerable experiences as a sexual abuse survivor, mashing R&B with South Asian culture at the same time.

The album resonated with thousands and shot her up in popularity yet again.

Lucid was named one of the best albums of 2019 by NPR.

Her second tour, the Later tour, was announced in June of 2019.

On February 7, 2020, Raveena released her second EP, Moonstone, which blended psychedelic indie pop and soul and, as much of her music does, explored past relationships and her identity.



In 2022, Raveena signed to Warner Records and released her much-awaited sophomore album, Asha's Awakening on February 11, 2022, drawing on inspiration from both South Asian and Western traditions.

In Asha's Awakening, Raveena portrayed herself as a mystical space princess named Asha from the planet Sanataan. Her third tour, the Asha's Awakening national tour lasted from April 15 2022 to May 28, 2022 and displayed her new, magical era of beauty, self-love, and embracing of her Indian roots.



Since the release of Asha, Raveena has been hard at work, creating music and continuing to honor both her cultural heritage and her musical roots. Consistently providing cultural credit to Black Americans for the creation of many of her defining genres of music and advocating for intercommunity allyship, she is not only a symbol of musical genius but an example for so many South Asians, young and old.

She continues to break stereotypes, such as that there was “no place for a Brown girl” in music, being the first solo Indian woman to headline Coachella. Raveena’s musical journey is one of beauty, self-discovery, and sharing with the world the cultures that make you who you are.



Voice & Style



- R&B
- soul
- jazz
- experimental
- contemporary R&B
- pop
- hypnotic
- Desi-futurist

She writes on her personal experiences,
identity politics, celebrating Queerness, heartbreaks, hardships, and mental struggles.

Influences



Asha Puthli
Nina Simone
Minnie Riperton
Corinne Bailey Rae
Sade
Fleetwood Mac
Stevie Wonder
D'Angelo
Björk
Asha Bhosle
Lata Mangeshkar
R D Burman
Ravi Shankar
M.I.A.
Sade Adu

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