

***Musician Biography Template***

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Year: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Born to local blues musician, Marlin Ricks, in Connecticut, Johnny Ricks developed a love for music at an early age. From the age of six, he would join his father onstage as he entertained local audiences and created a sensation every time. This childhood experience helped to shape his musical journey and as a teenager he was already writing his own music and performing at various events in his home town.

When he left school, he decided to attend the Berklee College of Music in Boston. He was involved in a blues band called the “The Right Note” during his college years and they played at various venues in Boston, gaining experience and having fun.

After college he decided to move to Atlanta Georgia and really focus on building his professional career. He enjoyed playing in clubs and bars but he knew he couldn’t do this for the rest of his life and, like many other musicians, he was looking for a breakthrough.

When Ricks decided to begin touring, his guitar skills, soulful voice and haunting lyrics immediately gathered a loyal fan base around him. His style of music is not just limited to blues but is also influenced by rock and R&B. The melodic mix creates a distinctive sound that intrigues and transports his listeners. He seems larger than life on stage with his music penetrating into hearts and souls.

Johnny also began recording demos from the time he was in his early twenties. He put recording on hold for a number of years while he was touring but after a number of years of touring, he decided to take a break and focus more on recording again.

He has become best known for his single “Love me” which became an instant hit when it was released. It brought him fame on the international blues music scene and found its way into local and international charts. It reached the number one position in Belgium and Italy and peaked at number two in Canada, the U.K and Germany. The single also went viral on the internet with millions of views on YouTube. The lyrical subject and deftness of imagery is what made this single such a breakout.

Since the release of this single, his career has come a long way. Johnny met his wife Molly and when they decided they want to start a family, he decided he wouldn’t tour and would focus on producing more albums. Johnny has continued to deliver a number of platinum and gold singles since then, and has recorded five albums altogether.

Johnny continues to appear on popular television shows and to perform at various music events, such as the Billboard Music Awards.

Writing and recording his latest album has been a priority since he stopped touring and Johnny hopes to release it within the next year. He says that this album is a culmination of many years of experience and offers a new experience for listeners whilst retaining all the well-loved elements of his past albums.

