

The French-Moroccan vocalist Nora Toutain has honed her craft and grown on the RnB and Soul scene in Montreal over the last three years. Wherever she performs, her ease and energy on stage charms crowds turned loyal followers. Her style is eclectic, rooted in influences from experiences, cultures, and emotions, all channelled into the spirit of the moment. A live recording of her composition, “Grounding Place” will be on her soon to be released EP.

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Nora got her start in music through the Kalmunity Vibe Collective in Montreal, who held workshops and helped her develop her voice and discover the art of improvisation in music. It was here that the filmmaker Feven Ghebremariam chose Nora as the subject for a documentary called “de l’autre cote de sa voie” which premiered at the World Film Festival of Montreal in 2013. Since then, the young songstress quickly found her place in the underground Soul and RnB scene in Montreal.

Her early influences came from the records that were played at home, having parents who loved music ranging from classical to jazz, as well as traditional north african rhythms.

During her adolescence, Nora spent three years living in India, where she first experienced the joys of live performance, through her school’s musical theatre program. After returning to Morocco to finish high school, she then moved to Montreal to obtain her bachelor’s degree in environmental science from McGill University, and it was during that time that she met the Kalmunity collective.

After completing her degree, Nora decided to follow her passion and pursue a career in music. While staying active on the scene, she auditioned and was accepted in the jazz vocal performance program at L’Université de Montreal, where she is currently studying and furthering her understanding of the art form.