## **Mp3 Velvet Stylus - Inside Your Mind**



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Innovative original soul and R&B infused with traces of Hip-Hop, Funk, Jazz, Rock, and Pop. 1 MP3 Songs in this album (3:57) ! Related styles: URBAN/R&B: Retro-Soul, URBAN/R&B: Soul People who are interested in Teena Marie Chaka Khan Mary J. Blige should consider this download. Details: Velvet Stylus showcases R&B, Soul, Hip-Hop, and Funk . Their repertoire pays homage to the rich history of Urban music with their originals and newly arranged covers. Velvet Stylus bears a signature sound - both innovative and respectful of its foundation. Each member comes from a deep-rooted performance background (please see individual member bios for details.) Driven by a tight rhythm section and dynamic - slightly non-typical - female vocalist, Velvet Stylus delivers honest, emotional performances that appeal to a very diverse audience. Their R&B/Hip-Hop/Soul fusion appeals to all ages across a wide audience base. The band came together formally in 2003, and features Darcie-Nicole Wicknick (of "...Ask Darcie" Music Business Consulting) some of the best musicians around: Former LuvJones Music Director James Auburn on Keys, former Blink Music Senior Engineer Tony Porter on Drums, and Jay Prokorym on Bass. [He had played with Auburn back in their Berklee days in a group called Mumbo Jumbo.] Comprised of some of the most promising talent in Boston, Velvet Stylus has performed at Boston venues including Skope Magazine Live at The Middle East, Berklee Peformance Center, Harpers Ferry, Critical Breakdown, SkyBar, DeepTones, Abbey Lounge, Blue Wave Soulful Saturday, Cantab Lounge/Third Rail, and at Doc Ryan's. They performed at The Hard Rock Cafe and Harvard Square Oktoberfest for Berklee Alumni Showcases and appeared as guests on Shadowline for Allston Brighton Free Radio and 617 Live! on Boston cable. Members sat in often with World/Blues outfit Weather Outpost 12. The band has met favorable criticism, garnering rave reviews, a feature in e-zine FMSound, and coming in at the Number 15 slot on BarStar HOT 100 Boston Bands chart for 2005. Two of its members are Co-Founders of The

Boston Hip-Hop Alliance and unique to Velvet Stylus - in addition to performing in their own right - the band avails itself to other artists as session players and as a backing band for live shows and recordings. Their ability to learn songs very quickly makes this possible. the band has backed many MCs and singers including Metaphorick, Session, Sol Anderson, Noldy, Javon Fields (Troublesumz Click), Danielle Scott, Letia Larok, Illin' P., Triple Threat, One Love, and Afro DZ ak, to name only a few. In 2005, they backed DL as he opened for national artists Royce da 5'9", Joe Budden (DefJam), Dre Robinson (Universal), and Devin the Dude (Rap-a-Lot Records) at Middle East Down Stairs shows. The feedback was incredible and hostDJ On and On likened Darcie to Queen of Hip-Hop Soul Mary J. Blige! In 2006, Velvet Stylus was honored with nominations for Best Live Band nomination by the Mass Industry Hip-Hop Awards. They served as the house band in 2007 for the MIC Awards to rave reviews. The group's sensibility and common goal toward the preservation of true Soul and Hip-Hop comes across in their playing and composition style. They are a no-frills act; what you see is what you get. Velvet Stylus is a featured artist on the Project: Think Different compilation and performed often as the house band for Hip-Hop Anonymous at Harpers Ferry, as well as various Soulkore events. The band is working on new materialfor their first album which they will start recording this summer. They backed Frank Buddas on June 8th, 2007 at Milly's Tavern in New Hampshire. The band received high accolades after playing behind Hip-Hop icon Medusa and Neo-Soul sensation Choklate for a Critical Breakdown fundraiser at Middle East Downstairs on June 13, 2007. In September, 2007, they were one of only six acts chosen to take the mainstage at the Allston Village Street Fair, which was one of the capstone events for Rock City's 200th birthday. Velvet Stylus is 2008 winner and a 2006 and 2008 nominee for Best R&B group for the New England Urban Music Awards. All of the members of Velvet Stylus are graduates from Berklee College of Music.

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