

Mp3 Jennifer Shaw - Be Still



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Jennifer Shaw's love for Christ comes shining through her inspirational songwriting in this beautiful tribute to her father. Stunning vocals, pure harmonies, and intriguing melodies make this contemporary Christian album one not to miss. 10 MP3 Songs GOSPEL: Contemporary Gospel, POP: Piano Details: Jennifer Shaw has been performing for most of her life, but never expected to be doing what she's doing now. Born in Columbus, OH, she knew from a very early age that she wanted to be a musician. "I remember being three and being very frustrated that I couldn't get what I was hearing in my head to come out right on the piano," she says. "I always knew I would be a musician." She was right. Throughout her childhood she studied piano, and honed her performing abilities in the theater. Graduating summa cum laude from Hope College with dual degrees in piano performance and voice performance, she went on to the world-renowned Manhattan School of Music where she received her Masters of Music with honors in vocal performance. While there, she studied with some of the biggest names in classical music, including her primary instructor, the legendary Theodor Uppman. She has appeared in over 40 productions, as well as innumerable concerts, and with her dance training, acting ability, and beautiful singing voice, was considered a "triple threat". After her graduation, however, she felt that God was calling her to something different. While still performing regularly, Jennifer went on staff for Young Life in full time ministry in New York. She also served as the youth pastor at her church. It was here that she really felt God calling her to live a life centered around Him rather than her own ambitions. A few years later, she felt led to move back to her home town of Columbus, Ohio where she accepted the position of music director at Faith Covenant Church, a capacity in which she is still serving. She was also on the voice faculty at Cedarville University for five years, and sang for several years with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, both as a soloist and in the symphony chorus. Jennifer's church asked her to transition the music program from one that was

completely traditional to a more contemporary feel. This involved starting a band, something that she felt was completely outside of her abilities. Confident of her musicianship both in the opera and musical theater, she knew that this was a very different game, and was very concerned that fronting a band would be a huge disaster. However, she knew that this was God's leading for her, and, striving for excellence in everything, she set out to master a new genre of music. As the band progressed, and Jennifer continued to cover more and more songs, she realized that her training in composition and music theory made it possible for her to write music for the band from her own heart, and put into music what she thought God was teaching her. "This music is so joyful, and freeing at the same time," she said. "It's very different from the intricate beauty of classical music that I love, but it is very real to me, and very immediate for the listener. People can relate to my songs because they've been there themselves, and they understand these experiences." In the fall of 2003, Jennifer's father was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, a tremendous blow to her family. For her father, she wrote the song Be Still. It was a desire to have her father hear her songs professionally recorded that finally sent Jennifer into the studio for her first solo project at the end of 2005, and what came from that is the album Be Still which was her father's Christmas present. Jennifer reflects, "I never really expected anything to come of it, it was really just for my dad. But the response to it has been tremendous, and now I think that God has bigger plans for it than just a Christmas gift. I am so glad that my dad will be able to see some of its success, and hope that the Lord can use it to encourage many people."

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