



BIO

Debbie (Debra) Rider was born in St. Augustine, Florida. Her passion for music and versatility as a vocalist began as she grew up listening to gospel radio on her Aunt's farm in Kentucky, then singing along to Diana Ross & The Supremes, living in the Washington, D.C. area. High school introduced her to classical music and choir where she won top honors as an operatic soloist. A 2010 graduate of University of North Florida's prestigious jazz studies program, Debra's career then took her to become an award-winning jingles singer, character voice actor, a backing vocalist for Lynyrd Skynyrd (1989-1992), a merit-award winning songwriter for Unisong International for her song "Charlotte", and to become a Savannah's International Vocal Competition quarterfinalist. Debra sang Janis Joplin tunes with Sam Andrew of Big Brother and the Holding Company, opened for Boots Randolph and Marcia Ball, and was a featured vocalist with The Chris Riddle Orchestra, the New Smyrna Beach Jazz Festival, and the Amelia Island jazz Festival. She has performed at Alhambra Theatre & Dining with several nationally renowned tribute artists, as well as organizations like the Jacksonville Symphony chartered non-profit Body and Soul-The Art of Healing. Her talent and versatility has kept her in demand as a vocalist throughout the southeastern USA music scene. In 2018, she has put together some of the best area musicians to produce her own tribute, selling out every show, with her 7-piece band, Get Closer! A Tribute to Linda Ronstadt.

CONTACT INFO & SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

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DEBBIE RIDER

Singer-Songwriter-

Linda Ronstadt Tribute Artist

PRESS

"Her performance was captivating: she looks like and sings like Ronstadt!"

--Dick Kerekes & Leisla Sansom

<https://eujacksonville.com/2020/01/12/new-years-eve-gala-alhambra-theatre-dining/>

"Debra continues to find appreciative audiences at various area venues. She's also writing original music; establishing herself as a serious composer..."--Keith Marks, Arbus North Florida's Arts and Business Magazine

<https://www.mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?m=7803&i=173285&p=70>

"Debbie came on stage dressed as the 1974 Linda belting out familiar songs from the album "Heart Like a Wheel". With favorites such as "You're No Good", "When Will I be Loved" ...she sang with such emotion and care for the original recording and her audience appreciated it. Her second set was another treat. Debbie shed the Linda of '74 and brought us a few years ahead in time to give us "Blue Bayou", "Just One Look" complete with backup singers...Anna Marie Bolet, Rock At Night

<https://www.rockatnight.com/2021/07/former-singer-with-lynyrd-skynyrd-debbie-rider-performs-linda-ronstadt-hits-in-jacksonville/>

Featured Musician Debra Rider First Coast Life Musician Spotlight November 2021

<https://firstcoast.life/featured-musician-debra-rider/>

"Debra's resume is that of a major artist, who has always put her family first, staying in Jacksonville and touring intermittently. Her voice has many colorful nuances and covers a wide range of octaves."

--Rick Grant, *Entertaining U-Jacksonville, Florida*

PROMO PHOTOS

