

Elle Varner

BORN: FEBRUARY 12, 1989

LABEL: RCA RECORDS



Her Story

As a big-haired 14-year-old, Elle Varner had a crippling fear of standing in the front row of her high school dance class. "I would go to the back every time and never be able to learn the routine," Elle recalls. Then, like Molly Ringwald in most of her '80s coming-of-age films, something inside her shifted. "A flame lit in me. I went to the front of the class one day and, for the first time, learned the whole thing. I went for everything instead of just shrinking and disappearing." Her esteemed rise from Santos

Party House coat check clerk to New York University's celebrated Clive Davis music program graduate to smiling "Only Wanna Give It To You" singer-songwriter. It's a running start most singers would kill for, allowing for early co-signs to come calling. Yet, this conversational lush owns up to the scary side of the industry's. "I'm in such a new place. I've always been in control, where I was going, what I was doing, where I was gonna go to school, and with this career, there is no control." Elle has also been nominated for three TheDrop.fm Music Awards this year.

Want More?

"In this moment right now, Elle is a young lady becoming a young woman stepping into a more responsible role—knowing what I want and speaking out for what I want and getting it." Arguably, her highest honor comes in the form of a Grammy nomination for Best R&B Song for "Refill." As her name floats among the

top of the sonically elite, success seems certain. Her wavering answers reveal the still hesitant teenaged Elle. When asked about her sophomore album, she starts, "I think it will definitely go into a more..." After a pause, she finishes, "I can't even give you—I can't say. I don't think it'll be shocking. I think it'll be more evolved."



Latest Album

PERFECTLY IMPERFECT

1. Only Wanna Give It To You
2. Refil
3. Sound Proof Room
4. I Don't Care
5. Not Tonight
6. Leaf
7. Oh What A Night
8. Stop The Clock
9. Welcome Home
10. D*** Good Friends
11. So Fly



Current Tour

- Dec 15 Hampton Coliseum
- Dec 14 Bojangles' Coliseum
- Dec 13 DAR Constitution Hall
- Dec 05 Madison Square Garden
- Dec 01 Arie Crown Theater
- Nov 30 The Midland

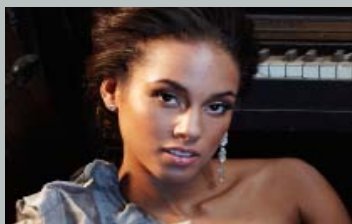
FULL TOUR @ ELLEVARNER.COM

- Hampton, VA
- Charlotte, NC
- Washington, DC
- New York, NY
- Chicago, IL
- Kansas City, MO

Alicia Keys

BORN: JANUARY 25, 1981

LABEL: RCA RECORDS



Her Story

A classically trained pianist, Alicia Keys (Alicia Augello Cook) was raised by a single mother, and briefly enrolled in Columbia University before the release of her 2001 debut album, *Songs In A Minor*, which garnered five Grammys. But Keys was just warming up: Her 2003 album, *The Diary of Alicia Keys*, and 2007's *As I Am*, both debuted at the top of the *Billboard* 200 (the latter was the biggest debut for any artist in *Soundscan* history). In 2004, Keys wrote a book, *Tears for Water: Songbook of Poems and*

Lyrics. Having appeared on *The Cosby Show* at age four, Keys has been acting longer than she's been singing. She's starred in the films like *Smokin' Aces* and *The Secret Life of Bees*. The woman even ran a marathon—in Greece! Since the release of her 2009 album, *Element of Freedom*, Keys—with help from her husband, producer Swizz Beats—has taken on a new role: mother. Keys was also a performer at the 2011 *BET Awards*. This year the soulful diva is scoring her fourth chart-topper with *Girl on Fire*. Alicia is ready to "Set The World On Fire" by kicking off a tour in North America.

Want More?

It's interesting, even as I think about it, my last record — which I'm so proud of and I loved the way we were able to do so many progressive musical things and kind of push the envelope forward for me as an artist. As an artist that's part of what gives me excitement — pushing myself forward to a new place. So for

The *Element of Freedom* to have done that for me, to have been able to do that with my last record, I'm so proud of it. But as I look back on it, I'm like, "Interesting, Alicia, that you chose to call this an element of freedom because, in actuality, at that point, there was only an element of it." Now, there is far more to it. It's kind of incredible; it's great.



Latest Album

GIRL ON FIRE

1. De Novo Adagio
2. Brand New Me
3. When It's All Over
4. Listen 2 Ur Heart
5. New Day
6. Girl On Fire
7. Fire We Make
8. Tears Always Win
9. Not Even The King
10. That's When I Know
11. Limitedless
12. One Thing



Current Tour

- Mar 7 WaMu Theatre
- Mar 8 Rogers Arena
- Mar 10 Oracle Arena
- Mar 12 Staples CenterLos
- Mar 13 Valley View Casino
- Mar 15 Mandalay Bay Casino

TOUR INFO @ ALICIA.COM

- Seattle, WA
- Vancouver, BC
- Oakland, CA
- Angeles, CA
- Valley Center, CA
- Las Vegas, NV