Ray On My Mind

The Ray Charles Story

"A reminiscent love letter to Ray Charles' music that celebrates the life of one of the godfathers of blues and, by extension, early rock 'n' roll. Brawner plays the piano full-out for every song, glazing over any mistake with speed and soul, much like Charles and other piano players of the time."
— All About Jazz

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"The sound of Mr. Brawner singing is the stuff of an immediate good mood."
— New York Times

This concert/theater work brings the music and the story of the great Ray Charles to vivid life! Portraying Ray, master pianist/vocalist, Kenny Brawner leads his 11 piece orchestra and three sultry vocalists (a la the Raelettes), performing this American legend's most popular hits: "What'd I Say?", "I Got A Woman", "Mess Around", "Georgia On My Mind", a blazing hot duet on "Baby It's Cold Outside", and many more! The music is interwoven with monologues depicting how gospel, blues, jazz, and country-influenced Ray's style, while also reflecting on American social history, his epic battle with drugs, and his triumphant return home to Georgia.

Ray On My Mind assembles an orchestra of profoundly accomplished musicians whose performances are ingrained in American popular culture. Members of the orchestra have been heard prolifically on Broadway, Off-Broadway, film, and television. They have performed all over the world and recorded with a diverse range of influential musical giants, including the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, the Count Basie Orchestra, Luther Vandross, Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder, Darius Rucker, Jennifer Hudson, Sonny Rollins, Big Daddy Kane, Bo Diddley, the Sun Ra Arkestra, the Mighty Sparrow, Roy Ayers, Sam & Dave, Ashford and Simpson, Gregory Porter, Boy George, Wilson Pickett, Percy Sledge, David Murray, Eric Benet, Larry Coryell, John Popper, Lester Bowie, Shaggy, Ron Carter and Rihanna.

FORMATS

STANDARD PERFORMANCE:
15-member ensemble led by actor/pianist Kenny Brawner, plus an 11-piece orchestra and three female vocalists.
> An Evening w/
> Festival headliner

OPTIONS:
> Outreach workshops available

AVAILS

Open/General

SUPPORT/ARTIST LINKS

SOCIAL NETWORKS:
Facebook, YouTube

WEBSITE
rayonmymind.com

BOOKINGS
SRO ARTISTS, INC.
Established 1980
6629 University Avenue, Suite 206 Middleton, WI 53562
P: 608.664.8160 F: 608.664.8161 E: gigs@sroartists.com
sroartists.com