

Garrison Starr - Bio

Julia Garrison Starr was born in Hernando, Mississippi in 1977. At the age of seven Starr began singing in choirs, and at thirteen picked up her first guitar. Garrison was attending high school when she first performed her songs in coffeehouses and clubs across the state line in Memphis, Tennessee. For a time Starr was a member of This Living Hand, a band whose line-up also included future solo artist Neilson Hubbard. In 1993 she graduated from high school and issued a nine-song cassette titled "**Pinwheels**." Her friend and guitarist Clay Jones produced the recording. In 1996 Starr issued the "**Stupid Girl**" EP, by which time she had completed her freshman year at the University Of Mississippi in Oxford. The "**Stupid Girl**" songs were based on people she had met at university. Starr left *Ole Miss*, began concentrating on her musical career and in the process got a job working at Ardent Records in Memphis, Tennessee. Backtracking a little, in 1995 Starr sent a demo tape to Geffen Records where it was received by A&R man Ray Farrell. One of the songs on the tape, "Superhero" greatly impressed Farrell. In late September 1997 Geffen Records issued "**Eighteen Over Me**," which was recorded at Kingsway Studios in New Orleans. The album, produced by Clay Jones and Dennis Herring, featured contributions from ex-Bangle Vicki Peterson, Jay Bennett [Wilco] and Neilson Hubbard. Garrison has intimated that her musical influences include The Bangles, Joni Mitchell and Tori Amos. Following the release of the Geffen album she became disillusioned with the music business and put her career on hold for a couple of years. By this stage Los Angeles was Starr's base. Clay Jones helped support her during this stage of her life, and she eventually began writing songs once again. The appearance of the mini album "**Somethin' To Hold You Over**" indicated Starr's intention to once more pursue a career in music. Last year she was featured on the compilation album "**I-10 Chronicles, Volume II**" issued by Virgin's Milwaukee based subsidiary label, Back Porch. Starr performed the Steve Forbert song "It Isn't Gonna Be That Way." "**Songs From Take-Off To Landing**," her debut solo effort for Back Porch was issued in March 2002. The album was co-produced by Chris Fuhrman and Garrison, apart from the Steve Earle and Ray Kennedy produced cuts "Serves Me Right" and "Heart of This Thing." The guest performers include Earle, Mary Chapin Carpenter and her old buddy, Nielson Hubbard.

Discography : "**Pinwheels**" [1993] ; "**Stupid Girl**" [1996] ; "**Eighteen Over Me**" [1997] ; "**24-7**" [1998] ; "**Somethin' To Hold You Over**" [2000] ; "**Songs From Take-Off To Landing**" [2002].

Arthur Wood

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