

Karyn Black - Bio

Raised in Newport, Rhode Island, Karen Elizabeth Black was the youngest of four siblings. Coached by their mother the young quartet, Tom, Sharon, Kevin and Karen, collectively known as the Four Fabulous Fennesseys, performed song and dance routines in clubs all over New England during their formative years. At the age of four, Karen had announced to her mother that she was going to be an opera singer. She was five years old when she first took to the stage with the Fennesseys, and they only retired when elder brother Tom, and her sister Sharon, went off to High School. Kevin went on to form a bluegrass band, while by her mid-teen years Karen had taught herself to play guitar. She wrote her first song soon afterwards, and within a couple of years was singing with local bands. During her college years she performed as a solo act in Boston and Newport bars and clubs. Following graduation she moved to New York to pursue a career as a professional musician. True love intervened, she married a radiologist, relocated to Maine and within a few years found herself raising three children. In the late eighties the family relocated to Florida, and Karen soon found herself getting restless. To occupy her time, initially Karen studied for a degree in dance, but she remained unsettled. A Tampa resident, she formed the Karyn Black Band and they soon established a local following. Buoyed by her success, she moved to Nashville in 1994 to pursue the dream she had first set out to fulfil in New York years earlier. Setting up her own record company, Fennessey Records, she cut her first album "**Beneath The Sheltering Sky**" at The Sound Kitchen. Karyn co-produced the recording with Clay Mills. Following a period where she toured extensively in Europe, Karyn recently returned to Nashville and in October 2001 Black inked a songwriting deal with one of music city's most prestigious publishers, Acuff Rose Music Ltd. Her debut album, "**Beneath The Sheltering Sky**," was released in Europe in late 2001.

Arthur Wood.

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