

My name is PaviELLE French and I am a professional vocalist and interdisciplinary artist. I am known for performing as, “PaviELLE” with a 5-piece soul band that accompanies me. I have a dynamic distinctive, musical, voice rooted in jazz, soul and hip hop genres. I believe I stand alone as a vocalist and, I embody my own unique technique and sound. I began performing at 5 years old in 1989. I received vocal and piano lessons at Walker West Music Academy.

I did choral work with Robert Robinson’s “City Songs”. I then attended Mississippi Creative Arts School, where I received training in dance, acting and, musical theater. And, in my teen years received formal acting and theater element training from Penumbra Theatre. I have been had the honor to grace such stages as a singer, dance and actor at: the Fitzgerald Theater, Penumbra Theatre, Orpheum Theatre, Ordway Theater and, Guthrie Theater. I have won a Sage Cowles Award for Dance and Choreography and, an Emmy Award for a documentary about my life and career.

I am also a teacher and mentor to several young performing artists in the Twin Cities. And, have done work with such prestigious arts schools CCLA, Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Arts, MacPhail Center For Music, Academy of Prince. I released my first album in 2014 called, “Fear Not.” An homage to my late mother and father. I wrote the album to process both their untimely deaths and ended up taking a new path as an artist. Being an Alchemist, using art as a vehicle to heal myself and others, as well. Since that time, I have also written two one woman shows and in that, realized that my niche is in combining all of my artistic disciplines to create shows with music, movement, dramatic storytelling and singing.

My career is blossoming into more than I could ever dreamed of! I most recently composed a symphony for my Mom called, “A Requiem For Zula.” I wrote it to honor her service as a teacher, community advocate and activist in the Rondo Neighborhood of Saint Paul. I collaborated with The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra to perform the symphony and it was a totally new and inspiring experience that has evolved my sense of musicianship and has ultimately led me on my new path of creativity, composing for orchestras. I was commissioned again to write a new symphony. I will premier it for The SPCO’s 2020 season.

My next career goal to achieve is recording both of my classical pieces and, touring. I received an ACF Create Grant in 2019 for, “A Requiem For Zula” and have been working with the American Composers Forum since then to immerse myself in the Classical genre and world. I would like to venture outside of Minnesota to bring my music to a new audience. And, have a chance to learn classical technique/technological lessons from working composers who write musicals, produce for others and also, vet how to tour nationally and internationally.