

# S A R A H M K

*Canadian soul singer-songwriter*



## "Montreal's Erykah Badu "

Laurent Saulnier, Vice-President of the Montreal International Jazz Festival

**"Sarah MK is a serious artist who is willing to push topical and stylistic envelopes"**

SoulTracks.com

**"Sarah MK is one of Montreal's hottest R&B vocalists"**

Richard Burnett, The Montreal Gazette

**"Her fuss-free melodies and smooth transitions between song and rap will have you instantly falling in love."**

Pop Montreal

**"Borders be blurred, borders be damned is what best defines the group's highly original and inventive approach to music and opulent sound"**

Arts&Opinion

**" The album (Worth It), if you still haven't had the chance to hear it, is stunning"**

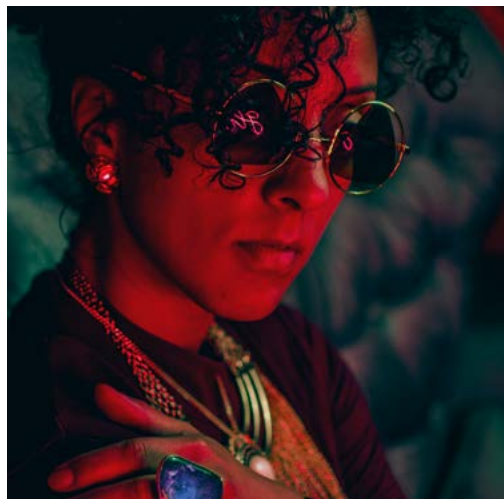
Cult MTL

**"Une belle découverte"**

Canoe.ca

Canadian soul singer-songwriter Sarah MK strikes the balance between message and music with graceful mastery.

Seamlessly alternating from slow-burning R&B to Jazz improvisation to full-blown MC, she has an impressive measure of versatility channeled by a fine tuned approach to sounds and lyrics. Sarah MK was born and raised in Montreal and is a recipient of a bachelor's degree in Jazz vocals from the Université de Montreal. Her first album was released in 2011 and, although she has been on a resourcing hiatus about recording her own compositions since, she has been highly active as a solid collaborator and creator with Montreal's finest artists.



*Credits: Vladespicable*



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She was the singer for the legendary French hip hop group Dubmatique, sang in the choir for the Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal's production of "Porgy and Bess", has recorded and scored music and vocal arrangements for RapKeb superstars Dead Obies, Brown, Joe Rocca and for the Hallmark movie "A Majestic Christmas", has co-founded the all women musician supergroup Lotus Collective where she acts as keyboardist, booker and co-musical director, has toured North America and Europe with Haitian artist Vox Sambou and klezmer hip hop musician Socalled and so much more! She also released a single under her name in the summer of 2018 with production by virtuoso pianist Anomalie and works part-time as a music educator for the Evenko Foundation and for the Marguerite Bourgeoys school board. Her music was featured on CNN and CBC and she has performed numerous times at the Montreal International Jazz Fest, Francofolies, Pop Montreal and more!

Since mid-2018, Sarah MK has been furtively working on a new album of 8 songs deeply anchored in the stylistics of Soul and R&B music. A first single is planned to be released in the early fall of 2019 with the full album following shortly after.

# Press



# JOURNAL FORUM UDM 2013

Sarah Makonnen jazze le hip-hop

Voix chaude et yeux pétillants : l'énergie de Sarah Makonnen déplace de l'air et bouscule au passage les idées reçues

# MONTREAL GAZETTE

Montreal International Jazz Festival 2012: The Montreal triumph of soul singer Sarah MK – headlining jazz fest, teaching kids music in class

“I remember feeling intimidated performing in front of Oliver Jones once...”

[Read more](#)



## Montreal International Jazz Festival 2012: The Montreal triumph of soul singer Sarah MK - headlining jazz fest, teaching kids music in class

NEWS DESK Updated: July 5, 2012



I discovered Montreal soul singer Sarah MK purely by accident while wandering past [Le Piano Rouge](#) in Old Montreal where she was performing. It was a steamy hot summer night, so I just popped in for a cold beer. And there was Sarah singing a dynamite version of Roberta Flack's *Killing me Softly*.

This weekend Sarah MK makes the jump from local clubs to the Montreal International Jazz Festival when [she headlines the intimate Savoy](#) inside the historic Metropolis concert venue. It's a much-deserved slot and Sarah, as you can imagine, is pretty excited.



Montreal neo-soul singer Sarah MK (Photo by Nik Brovkin, courtesy FIJM)

"This is my first time performing at the Montreal jazz festival and I'm going through a range of emotions as the big day approaches," Sarah told POP IARTI this week. "I'm really nervous but mostly I'm excited and honoured."

Sarah says she will perform her new Jordan Peters-produced neo-soul album *Worth It* ("It's a long EP at nine songs!") at the Savoy shows. Her quintet will welcome guest musicians each night – and who knows who'll show up, because she's been a member of Montreal's renowned Kalmurthy Vibe Collective since 2009, and she's worked with and for many of Montreal's great R'n'B talents, like

# Press

## Festival de Jazz de Montréal: un univers métissé pour Sarah MK

Huffington Post Québec | Par Jean-François Cyr  
Publication: 06/07/2012 17:00 EDT | Mis à jour: 05/09/2012 05:12 EDT



La jeune artiste MC et slammeuse montréalaise Sarah MK chante aussi un univers métissé de soul, hip hop et de R&B contemporain. Très active sur la scène locale, l'auteure-compositrice-interprète qu'on a pu entendre avec les formations Kalmunity (collectif d'une cinquantaine de danseurs, poètes, chanteurs, musiciens également présent au Festival de jazz 2012) et Nomadic Massive nous proposera au

Savoy du Métropolis les deux prochains jours le matériel de *Worth It*, un album sensuel et riche en *groove*. Première visite pour elle au Festival de Jazz pour sa carrière solo. Discussion avec ce talent d'ici à voir absolument.

On avait pu la découvrir en 2007, période durant laquelle elle évoluait avec le Vanier College Band. Depuis, elle a fait de nombreuses prestations dans la métropole aux renommés Jello Martini Lounge, Upstairs et Piano Rouge Lounge. Cela dit, c'est à la sortie de son premier opus paru à l'automne 2011 que Sarah MK fait vraiment sa marque, mettant le doigt avec justesse sur le fragile équilibre entre le message et la musique.

# HUFFINGTON-POST QUEBEC

## Festival de Jazz de Montréal

La jeune artiste MC et slammeuse montréalaise Sarah MK chante aussi un univers métissé de soul, hip hop et de R&B contemporain.

# MIRROR

## Love and Hair

Live entertainment with Sarah MK and a jazzy trio...



# Press



## 24H

### 33<sup>e</sup> Festival de Jazz de Montréal

Sarah MK a offert une prestation lors de la conférence de presse.

## OKAY PLAYER

Sarah MK's debut album

Sarah MK's debut album, *Worth It*, finds the Canadian songstress contemplating if life's challenges are worth all the static. She treads the familiar ground of ignoring naysayers and trying to find meaningful relationships amidst people who only pursue music for big paychecks.

[Read more](#)

okayplayer. MUSIC NEWS ORIGINALS CULTURE SPORTS

HOME / REVIEWS / SARAH MK

POSTED BY CANDACE L. 7 YEARS AGO

LAST

Sarah MK's debut album, *Worth It*, finds the Canadian songstress contemplating if life's challenges are worth all the static. She treads the familiar ground of ignoring naysayers and trying to find meaningful relationships amidst people who only pursue music for big paychecks. It's all very noble, idealistic and yawn-inducing. She doesn't bring much new light to these topics, but thankfully doesn't hurt your ears while doing it.

"It's Here" happily revels in the joys of achieving your dreams, but sounds more like a speech given to troubled teens at the local Y. The 'M' in MK occasionally stands for MG as Sarah trades in her smooth vocals for equally laidback, Ladybug Mecca-style rhymes. She interrupts the tongue-in-cheek "Just Friends" about the too-friendly activities between buds to rip about coded Facebook messages and "Ain't Hearing It" is all rhymes with just a little singing on the hook. The switch in styles is a needed change of pace on a short album that still manages to bore with its earnest R&B conventions. "Forces" finds Sarah MK again pulling equal singing/rapping weight, but an appreciative nod goes to Jordan Peters' dizzying loops that threaten to throw you off-balance if not for MK's steady flow keeping you on track. And there's a flute solo, so you know, magic by default.

While she doesn't have the flash or charisma of other singer-rappers like Missy Elliott or Lauryn Hill, Sarah MK might consider making rhyming a permanent part of her arsenal if it isn't already. With it she's mildly interesting, but without it, she's just another forgettable R&B chick, and being a Tia Mowry lookalike isn't enough to make a timid album 'worth it.'

-Candace L.

# Press



## OKAY AFRICA

Gabriel Teodros ft. Sarah MK - Black Love

“Black Love” is the Bonita Applebum-smooth latest from Ethiopian-American wordsmith Gabriel Teodros. When we last heard from the respected Seattleite, he was spitting otherworldly concoctions in the form of Ethio-diasporic collective CopperWire. His latest marks a return to Pacific Northwest soul, this time teaming up with Montreal’s Ethiopian-Canadian songstress/MC Sarah MK in a testament to beauty.

[Read more](#)

## HIP HOP CANADA

Sarah MK- Just friends

[Watch the video](#)



# Press

