

## An interview with Miki Vale

By Adrienne Miller

Introduce yourself! Tell us a little bit about you.

**MV:** I'm Miki Vale. Emcee, artist, entrepreneur, promoter, and sometimes DJ if needed :)

**I heard *Hot* produced by Kankick (the song is hot, by the way... no pun intended), how would you best describe your style and what do you feel sets you apart from other artists (this is your opportunity to brag)?**

**MV:** I think what sets me apart from some other artists is that I do what I feel, not what I think will get me noticed or try to emulate what other artists are doing. My style is very much my own. It's soulful and from the heart. I'm also very versatile. I'm a multi-faceted person so my music is also multi-faceted, you never know what to expect from me, whether in life or in music.

**What inspires Miki Vale? Who do you listen to on a regular basis?**

**MV:** I'm inspired by the world. By every day life. I might watch a documentary or hear a story about something that happened to someone and be inspired to put my thoughts about it to music. I'm also inspired by different artists and producers and the passion they put into their work. I listen to a lot of soul, like Bilal, Eric Roberson, Jill Scott, Georgia Anne Muldrow. I listen to a lot of different producers like Hi-Tek, Dilla, Kev Brown, Jazzy Jeff, etc. Just feel-good music, anything with a nice soulful groove to it.

**When did you decide to get really involved in the music industry as an artist, and what was one of the first lessons you learned coming in?**

**MV:** I honestly don't think I ever made a conscious decision to be involved in the music industry, it just happened. I was always around artists, musicians, dj's, promoters, etc and music was always around me since birth so I guess it was just a natural progression to be involved with some aspect of the industry. One of the first lessons I learned was rule number 4080... it's a very shady business. There's always someone who will try and wheel and deal, especially with me being a female. There's a lot of fast talkers in this business. So I've learned to move carefully and never place too much on what people talk about, but rather wait for them to show and prove.



**What would say is your favorite part about working with music?**

**MV:** My favorite part is that I can do anything I set my mind to. Music is never-ending, so as long as you have the ability to create you can do anything with it. And it has led to so many other areas opening up for me. I'm fortunate enough to have been able to parlay the elements I've learned from music to doing other things creatively, like promoting events and shows, dj'ing, etc. I've been able to travel and work with a lot of very talented people that I respect and admire. My one goal in life has been to be able to live comfortably by utilizing my talents and I'm currently doing that thanks to music. It's freedom.

**Is there any artist that you would want the opportunity to work with and is there anyone you wouldn't mind working with again?**

**MV:** There's a lot of people I'd like to work with. I'd love to work with Raphael Saadiq because I think he's a brilliant artist and producer. Probably everyone I've ever worked with I'd like to work with again at some point and probably will.

**If there was one thing that you wanted listeners to take away from your music what would that be?**

**MV:** Love. Everything I do is done out of love. If I don't feel it, I don't do it. So anything I do you know my heart was put into it.

**What can we expect to see and hear from Miki Vale in 2012?**

**MV:** You can expect to see me continue to work and drop music. You'll see more videos and lots of cameos because I've been working with a lot of not only different artists, but different types of artists. I'm also working on a book and couple other things I don't want to expose just yet, I'd rather just show you. I'm all about building and expanding though and I believe there is no limit to what we can do as humans as long as we put our mind to it.

**Okay, one last question and it's going to be random. What are three movies that make you laugh the hardest?**

**MV:** *40 Year Old Virgin*, *Pineapple Express* and *Old School*

**Any closing statements?**

**MV:** Follow the path your heart beats.

