



21st Century Singer/Songwriters: Alicia Keys

KS2 music objective:

To appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians

There are many famous singers and there are many famous songwriters. But to be a singer/songwriter means double the amount of talent. There have been many great singer/songwriters over the decades, but one of the most successful female artists from modern times is Alicia Keys.

- Alicia Keys was born Alicia Augello Cook on 25th January 1981 in Manhattan, New York City.
- Alicia Keys is an American R&B singer-songwriter, pianist, musician, record producer and actress.
- Alicia is of mixed race and she felt this has helped her to relate to different cultures.
- She began composing songs by age 12 and was signed at the young age of 15 years old by Columbia Records
- Her most famous songs to date are 'Fallin'', 'If I Ain't Got You', 'Empire State of Mind' and 'Girl of Fire'.
- Alicia Keys has produced seven studio albums up to the present day.
- Alicia has also won many awards for her music, but also for her humanitarian work, supporting African children and human rights.
- One of the most influential and talented musicians of her time, Alicia has sold over 65 million records and 30 million albums worldwide.
- Adele and Rihanna have named Alicia Keys as an influence on them as female artists.

Fun facts about Alicia Keys

- Alicia is a classically-trained pianist.
- Her mother is of Italian, English, Irish and Scottish descent and her father is of African descent.
- She was first on TV at the age of 5, appearing in an American sitcom.