



Raveena

Raveena grew up in a traditional Indian Punjabi American family in Massachusetts and later in New York. Her family immigrated from Punjab, India to the United States to flee the anti-Sikh riots in 1984. She loved music growing up. She was influenced by Bollywood and Ella Fitzgerald. She sang around the house and started performing in community talent shows at the age of five. Raveena wanted to be a musician and her parents were hesitantly supportive. It was hard getting into the industry. First, there were no South Asian girls like her in the media. Next, colored women were exoticized in the media. Lastly, people told her that a South Asian woman could not be a singer in the United States. At multiple record labels, people would tell her “we can’t sign you, you’re brown...there’s no space for you.” This did not stop Raveena, but made her more determined. She continued to write her own songs, perform, and build her skills around music. Her big break came in 2015 when she started working with record producer Everett Orr, releasing new music on Soundcloud, and amassing a large online following. Her albums *Shanti* (2017) and *Lucid* (2019) explored themes of female empowerment, trauma, healing, and spirituality. In 2022, she signed with Warner Records and continued promoting her Indian Punjabi American culture and background in her music videos and songs. In that same year, she also became the first woman of Indian origin to headline the Coachella Music Festival. Raveena joined *Kajal Magazine* to continue giving voice to the South Asian diaspora. Her musical style is a combination of R&B, soul, jazz, experimental, and pop.

Note: Some songs listed might have explicit content; listener discretion advised.