



**GOVERNOR GENERAL'S
PERFORMING ARTS AWARDS FOUNDATION
FONDATION DES PRIX DU GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL
POUR LES ARTS DU SPECTACLE**

Dione Taylor

A pastor's daughter from Saskatchewan, Dione Taylor burst onto the music scene in 2004 with her dynamic performance style and soulful voice steeped in the traditions of gospel, blues and jazz. Her Juno-nominated debut recording, *Open Your Eyes*, was named one of the Top Recordings of 2004 by Canada's premiere jazz radio station, Jazz.FM91.

An assured and charming performer, Ms. Taylor has sung for presidents and royalty, including former U.S. President George W. Bush and Queen Elizabeth II. Notable appearances include *Jazz and the New Generation* at the Kennedy Center (2003), the 2005 Nightlife Jazz Tour, and the 2005 Montreal International Jazz Festival.

At the 2006 Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Gala, Ms. Taylor performed "The Weight" for Lifetime Artistic Achievement award recipient Robbie Robertson. She was nominated for a 2008 Gemini for her rendition of Oscar Peterson's "Hymn to Freedom," which she performed alongside Oliver Jones at the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame Gala. Her latest CD, *I Love Being Here With You*, was released in Japan in November 2008, and in December she performed a sold-out Christmas concert at the Bunkamura Orchard Hall in Tokyo.

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