

Statement most recent professional interest. CD MLK Convergence:

MARLENE ROSENBERG-MLK
CONVERGENCE
KENNYBARRON
LEWIS NASH



MLK- Convergence is an acronym for **Marlene, Lewis and Kenny** and of course, the iconic, great American leader Martin Luther King, Jr. It's about how we are all musicians and people of different cultures, colors, heritages, sexes and generations and yet can *converge* to create, and peacefully and joyfully live together in this world.

I have known Kenny Barron and Lewis Nash for over 20 years and have always wanted to play with them again. Life happened, as it is said, and forward many years to now, I decided it was time to make my intent a reality. I am honored and truly thankful for Kenny Barron an NEA Jazz Master, Lewis Nash and Christian McBride's willingness to be a part of this project with me!

Events of late have created such an environment of permissible hate, blame and lack of tolerance, that have not been witnessed in such obvious ways since the 1960's. What has been covered has been brought to Light; a brewing and seeping stew of non-congeniality in the country that touts itself as a "melting pot" of content and harmony. My parents dreamed of a place their children could live in peace and harmony away from the pogroms of WWII in Europe, for instance, only to see that we are still surrounded by the monster of

hate, fear and control. I am of Jewish heritage and upbringing, female, and have experienced my own inequities in this society. While having its advantages in some places, I have also experienced discrimination and non-inclusion. I am actually an optimist and hope this isn't seen as me standing on some soapbox whining and wailing, but I cannot remain silent. I offer this music as an expression and in an effort to voice the current reality that exists in America, and "the dream" of balance, harmony, and understanding that could expand exponentially. As Stevie Wonder says in his lyrics:

"Loves in Need of Love Today, Don't Delay- Send Yours in Right Away"

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