

Jason Mraz

Jason Mraz was born on July 23, 1977 in Mechanicsville, Virginia. He started his career in the San Diego coffee house scene in 2000. His music is mostly influenced by genres such as reggae, pop, rock, jazz, folk and hip-hop.

Having a strong interest in music, he attended the American Musical and Dramatic Academy but dropped out a year later when he decided to pick up guitar at the age of 18. He later moved to New York and started exploring his talent on the streets of Manhattan. It was after his time in the Big Apple that Jason then moved to San Diego where he landed a singing job with drummer Noel “Toca” Rivera. Along with Toca, Mraz performed at the coffeehouses around town and was soon after signed with Elektra Records. Since then he has written three albums “Waiting for My Rocket to Come”, “Mr. A-Z”, and “We Sing, We Dance, We Steal Things”. His albums have landed him at the tops of the chart and brought him many awards.



Ximena Sariñana Rivera

Ximena Sariñana Rivera was born on October 29, 1985 in Guadalajara, Mexico. Her career was launched in 2008. Since then she has been nominated for many awards, including twice for the Latin Grammy Awards. She got her start in the telenovelas at age 11. At age 17, she earned a scholarship for a five week program at Berklee College of Music, where she wrote three songs for the soundtrack of the Mexican movie *Amar Te duele* (that her father directed and her mother wrote) where she also played the part of Mariana. From this point, a musical star was born.

In recent years, the Latin pop/indie/jazz/rock songwriter has added serious cred to her name, collaborating with everyone from Jason Mraz to her now-longtime boyfriend, Omar Rodriguez Lopez of The Mars Volta. An article in *Rolling Stone España* in February 2009 featured Sariñana, where she talked about her international stardom and crossing national boundaries to make her mark in American media.

