



Patti Austin '68



For fifty years, Patti Austin has been hard at work putting to use her array of talents as a vocalist and entertainer. This renowned member of the Class of '68 began her singing career at the age of four when she first hit the stage with Dinah Washington at the world famous Apollo Theater in Harlem. As the goddaughter of musical legends Quincy Jones and Dinah Washington, it is no surprise that Patti has been able to explore nearly every genre of music in a career that has spanned more than three decades.

An artist in her teens, Patti recorded for a variety of labels, among them Decca, RCA, Coral and United Artist, and her more difficult to locate performances remain much revered by soul music collectors, particularly in Europe and Japan. Since her initial performance fifty years ago, her career has twisted and turned, but the one constant continues to be her resonant voice, a voice that, combined with the right selections, has had the power to lift people at various stages of their lives and in a wide variety of situations.

In 1981, Patti signed a contract with Quincy Jones's Quest label and her debut album with them, *Every Home Should Have One*, included the chart-topping *Baby Come to Me*. In recent years, Patti has performed extensively throughout the Far East where she is immensely popular. She is a true artist whose creativity knows no boundaries.