

ANJALI ASHA

Biography

Anjali Asha, whose name translates to 'Offering Hope', is a Mexican and Indo-Fijian American singer/songwriter. Her unique cultural background influenced her with a wide spectrum of music growing up. Anjali began writing lyrics as soon as she learned to write and quickly discovered singing to be a passion.

Her father, a DJ and music producer, worked in the Dance, Hip Hop and Reggae scenes. While her mom filled their home with Jazz, Blues, Soul, R&B music. Mixed with growing up around her dad's recording studio, music came naturally to Anjali.

Anjali's talents weren't shared with her family until she was nine years old, Anjali approached her father and asked if she could record a song in his studio. She explained it was for a class project, positive he would approve of anything school related. Instead she was met with confusion and a swift denial. To his surprise Anjali began to argue. Entertaining her persistence, he listened to the song she had brought him.

Within minutes they began creating. Anjali won him over by singing a song she had written herself. Recording the song, her dad was blown away at her natural presence in the vocal booth. 'It was as if she had been doing this forever,' he explains. Amazed at the finished product, he told her, "If you want to take this seriously, you will need to put your everything into it."

For the next nine years, Anjali prepared and perfected her skills under her father's wing. She gained experience working with his trusted peers and participating in several talent productions and shows around the Bay Area.

Growing up in Stockton, CA Anjali would write about the struggles her family went through when she was a kid. One of her first releases "Reality" centered around the true story of her family losing their home in the 2008 housing crisis. Events like this formed her early relationship with community organizing and outreach.

Upon graduating high school, Anjali was awarded "The Cliff Burton Memorial Scholarship". Cliff Burton was a founding member of the band Metallica and had been an alumnus of her high school. The award was put together by Cliff's family to honor a student who, like Cliff demonstrated a sincere commitment to a career in music directly after high school.

After high school, Anjali immediately went to work on a debut album titled, "Silver Linings". She finished it less than a year later and scheduled it to be released in the summer of 2018. A day after finalizing the cover art, everything Anjali had been working towards came to a halt. She barely survived a horrible, drunk driver related car accident.

While in the ER, before her initial diagnosis, Anjali's first words to her father were, "If Kanye could do it, I got this".

Anjali's cheekbones had been crushed in and separated from her skull. Anjali also suffered a broken jaw, torn lip, broken nose, lacerated forehead, permanent nerve damage, and a severely deviated septum. Surgeons estimated a 2-year minimum of recovery time and more heart wrenching, they warned she may never sing again.

Anjali took the two-year ordeal to the chin. She battled through multiple surgeries with smiles through her jaw wiring. Put on a full liquid diet and heavy narcotics, she lost weight and was almost unrecognizable. Tired and frustrated, Anjali abruptly stopped taking her medication. She locked herself in her room with a trash can and water bottle and bore the heavy withdrawals of Percocet's. During this week she cites writing at least 30 songs, 5 of which would be recorded just weeks later as she pushed her team to rally behind her. Anjali began working double time to accomplish a whole new album for her whole new attitude

She independently recorded an almost entirely new project. Just seven months after the accident, she released a music video for her single "Voicemail". Shortly after she released her full project "CHINGONA" accompanied by a successful release party her and her team set up in San Francisco.

By this point, Anjali had fully embodied the loving nickname her mom gave her growing up. Chingona, a Spanish word translating to "Bad ass woman" represents Anjali's attitude, triumphs and overall personality perfectly.

With her surgeries and recovery finally coming to an end, Anjali is more energized than ever to conquer every challenge presented. "I'm the bionic woman now", she jokes referring to the permanent titanium plates in her face. Anjali's lighthearted spirit inspires many around her to keep a smile on their face regardless of the situation.

When asked about her album, Anjali said, "As a whole I want "CHINGONA" to make people feel good. It's an upbeat album representing growth and lessons learned. I want listeners to be able to come with me, through the introspection that brought every word and to read into the deeper meanings behind the lyrics. That not only sums up struggles but influences a new attitude on how to process and push through them into a new chapter. My goal was to capture ambition, positivity, triumph and resilience."

Anjali Asha aka CHINGONA - She's unstoppable!