

TONYE AGANABA LONG BIO

Tonye Aganaba is a multidisciplinary artist, musician, and performer residing on the unceded territories of the Squamish, Musqueam & Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. They were born in London, England to parents of Nigerian and Zimbabwean descent, and raised in the picturesque seaside town of Weymouth, Dorset. At the age of 13 Tonye moved to Canada, first to Prince Albert, SK, then on to the city of Dawson Creek, BC. Upon graduation Tonye attended the University of Victoria's Phoenix Theatre Program.

Tonye's style, like her gender, is fluid (or at the very least non-binary) - but can be described as **Soul/Neo-Folk/R&B**, and although unique - they have been likened to folk like **Lauryn Hill, Ani DiFranco and Chaka Khan**. Tonye is a **Much More Music Video Award** recipient, a steadfast fixture in their arts community - and the kind of singer/performer that turns heads wherever they go.

In early 2015 Tonye's trajectory was interrupted by a diagnosis of **Multiple Sclerosis**, but the full stop came two years later, when a car accident on an icy back road in the Peace Region left their spine fractured in six places. All plans were waylaid as they lay bedridden and isolated for months. In the fall of 2017, Tonye parted ways with 604 Records & Paquin Artists and set out on a journey of self-discovery and healing.

In many ways, Tonye has had to start over, and they bear the scars to show it. They now refer to MS as the best thing that ever happened to them. A wake up call offering a new lease on life and more importantly, a shift in perspective. Their purpose and vision are crystalline. To connect with audiences on a deeper level through intentional work, and to use their presence to foster meaningful dialogue within communities. They are not only interested in taking music and art to traditional venues but also into schools, community centers, hospitals, prisons, and boardrooms. Places where art can heal, start conversation, and maybe even.... make change.

Tonye Aganaba

Represented by Cubby Hole Artists