Twiggi, Slim, Trim, Delicious Riddims

By Michael Conally - May 31st, 2012

Marie Twiggi Gittens, dedicated to teaching love and righteous living through music.



The thing her friends seem to tease reggae singer Twiggi about the most is her slender body, size and height. Marie "Twiggi" Gittens is known to her friends for being wafer thin. Her size and shape is the origin behind her childhood nickname which has since become her stage name. It is a key part of her presence. This is not problem because not only is she well blessed with beauty and talent, she also has a copious amount of humour.

She is regularly an unseen but very prominently heard voice on the hit songs of many top reggae entertainers. Names range from Buju Banton, Wayne Wonder to Marcia Griffiths, Burning Spear, Jimmy Cliff, Steel Pulse, Sizzla, Beres Hammond, Luciano, Garnett Silk, Beenie Man and Lady Saw.

There is no chance of getting her mixed up with the famous 1960s model called Twiggy (or Lesley Lawson née Hornby). Twiggi is the one who is Jamaican. Also her solo singer star is shining...

Twiggi has been singing and performing since age five, first at church, to which she is still very close and later at school. Her music tends to be syrupy sweet love ballads with lyrics typically dealing with affairs of the heart. It is easy to sum her career as "dedicated to teaching about love and righteous living through her music."



What are some of the things she has learnt from life? Maybe her response to our inevitable 20 Questions will throw up some interesting answers...

1. Profession

Singer

2. Age Region

40s

3. Birthday

October 27

4. Right or left handed?

Right handed

5. Philosophy on family life

Family is precious, they should be cherished daily.

6. Who's been your greatest inspiration in life?

I would have to say my mother, even though my dad was around and there for us. She was always like the back-bone, a hard worker, had us living like rich kids just to grow up and understand that she was earning a very small wage but made it work to maintain our easy lifestyle and at the same time sacrificing a trip to oversees to live so she would not have to leave us, never traveled until her late 50's when we were all grown up.

7. What current world issue are you most unhappy with? And why?

My issues are with worldwide poverty. There is so much money to go around yet greed has consumed the ones at the top who have the authority to disperse and share with the ones who are unable to survive on their own, only allowing that gap of lack to get wider. As they say "the rich will get richer and the poor poorer." Sigh.

8. If you could how would you bring about world peace?

That's a hard one for many have tried, even if it's just a front with ulterior motives behind it but, hey. Might sound a little naive but I say equal rights and justice for all...

9. Which one piece (or series) of creative works (past or present) are you most impressed with? And why?

For me the piece that impresses me is the song "Stir it Up" by Bob Marley. Why? It shows off a more romantic and sexy side of the artist who puts up this hard shell (that's my take and I'm sticking to it) dont know if I read too much into the song but it gives me this groovy feeling everytime I hear it and "it takes me away." Lol. Very simply written, very suggestive but not offensive and the music especially the bass and keys gives it this mellow, smooth, slow feel that gets me in the mood for love everytime. (Smile).

10. How much does your religion (or way of life) influence the kind projects you do or will consider doing?

Dont do religion but my way of life represents the God that I serve and he is Love. I am not a perfect being but the projects I do should allow people to feel my vibration of love and peace flowing from me to them. So my projects will only be positive ones.

11. Are there any topics you would definitely not consider doing a project on? If so which? If no, why not?

A definate no-no to any topics of a demonic nature. I shun the very presence of those!

12. What percentage (100%, 50%, 25%, etc.) of your soul would you be willing to sell in order to be successful?

Zero percent for sure. That's only a trap set up by the enemy of your soul to consume and destroy you one way or the other and once you go in there is no way out. And who are "they" to dictate what success is anyway? The mass better take me or leave me with my "pure mind and soul..."

13. What personal sacrifices have you had to make it to where you are today?

I have had to sacrifice money and even starting my own family because I always have to be working and traveling really hard.

14. What's the best advice you would give to anyone wanting to make it in their chosen career?

My advice to that person would be to follow their dreams and let no one stop them, even if the way seems dark and hopeless, dig deep into their faith and keep moving forward, having confidence in themselves. Also to associate themselves with positive, supportive peeps who have your back at all times.

15. What's your favourite overseas holiday destination? Or, which overseas destination would you really love to visit for holiday? And why?

Oh my gosh there are so many of them! Wow! Let me see. It would have to be somewhere warm and very private, like Josh Van Dyke in the BVI (British Virgin Island) or beachy and tropical like Nice France but also I Love Venice, so romantic! Mi confused. Lol

16. When you leave this planet how would you like to be remembered?

I would like to be remembered as a girl who gave of herself to help, touch and inspire many in a positive way.

17. What do you admire most in a partner?

The nurturing, sensitive side is what i admire most in a partner.

18. Would you stay with a partner who hits you? If so, why? If no, why not?

I would not stay with a partner who hits me. For one I am not his child so don't even think about it! And, secondly if he hits me and is allowed to get away with it over and over, the next time I might end up dead, vegetated or maimed for life!

19. Who would play you in a film of your life?

I would play me best but lemme see. Maybe the girl (Kimberly Elise) who played Tisean in the movie "Set it Off" because she always plays a humble person with a more natural look in all her movies. Don't know her name though. Sorry.

20. If you could travel back in time which era or period would you return to and why?

I would go back into the 80's to 90's. That was a period when I was still 'young' without a care in the world. Parents had me covered, some of the best music were made during that period also. Even by myself haha. And life was just about having a great time compared to now where everything is just Kraaaz-y!