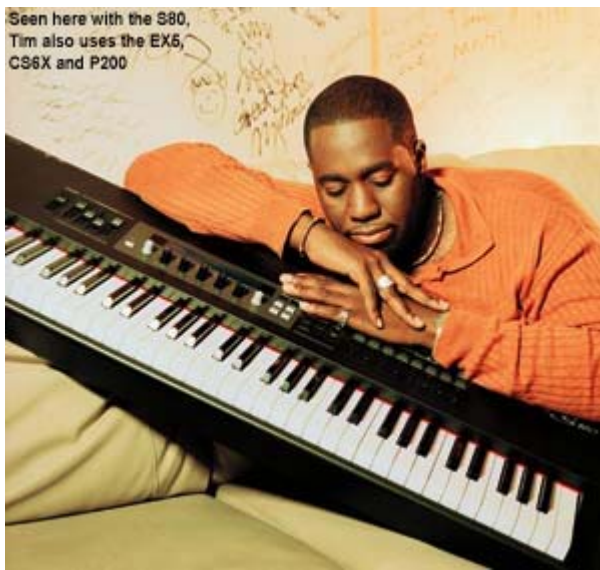


## Tim Carman

Even though keyboardist Tim Carmon has played with the likes of B.B. King, Eric Clapton, Babyface, Buddy Guy, Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight, and Macy Gray, he may be best known to millions for his daytime television roles, such as the piano-playing Kip on *The Young and the Restless*. But Carmon insists that he is always a musician first.



"I'm not afraid of the camera," shrugs the Washington, D.C., native. "I'm very jolly, and I can get into clown mode real quick. But even my television roles involve music. I've been making my living at music since age 14. I grew up in a musical family, so it's in my blood. My mom plays, and so do most of my seven brothers and sisters. The whole piano thing started for me when I'd have competitions with my sister to see who could pick out the most cartoon themes on the keyboard. I played a lot in church, too, and that's still a big part of my playing. When

Marcus Miller tells cats about me, the first thing he says is that I have a church feel. If you put an organ in front of me, you're definitely going to hear it!"

While Carmon, 28, works chiefly in blues and R&B, his sound trades heavily on rich, added-note harmonies and imaginative chord substitutions. "I love lush chords," he says. "That's my thing—give me a palette of chords, and I am going to take it somewhere else. I guess you could say it's a jazz influence. I don't know for sure, though I definitely listened to jazz cats like Art Tatum, Oscar Peterson, and Phineas Newborn when I was growing up."