

Multifaceted artist Nicole Oliver shares some heartwarming Valentine's Day magic

By: [Allen Foster](#) AXS Contributor Feb 12, 2016 3 days ago



Nicole Oliver and Chris Ainscough Courtesy of Paul Duchart, used with permission.

“Hello?”

[Nicole Oliver](#)'s voice was a velvety dark chocolate that was rich and intoxicatingly smooth. Well, at least it was until she slipped into the nasal whine of a preadolescent boy or the sultry evil of a villainess intent on ruling the world or the scolding tone of your mother – if she had been born and raised in Fargo, North Dakota – or the confident wisdom of Princess Celestia

from “My Little Pony.” You see, besides being an actor and a vocalist, the multifaceted entertainment veteran is also an accomplished voice-over talent who is in high demand.

Her husband is Chris Ainscough, an award-winning composer in the film industry.

“We met on a movie,” Nicole told AXS (in her regular voice), “he was the composer for one of my films. It was my mother, of all people, who introduced us at the Toronto Film Festival back in 1998! The Toronto Film Festival is the Super Bowl of film festivals, it's really something! So, of course, I brought my mother as my date.”

“I had to go do a press walk, so I left her in the theater for a little bit and she started talking to this guy next to her. When I returned, she introduced me to him and whispered, ‘I think you should date him, he's much nicer than any of your other boyfriends.’ And so... I listened to her!” In all honesty, Chris never stood a chance. The movie he scored that starred Nicole was a thriller called “The Falling.” It was an award-winning film about a love triangle that was told in the Rashomon style – recounting the same story from different perspectives. “I was the female lead, so I was all over that film,” she revealed, “I mean, really, I was all over it because I had a few nude scenes.”

As her husband was painstakingly scoring the film, watching Nicole's scenes over and over, he became absolutely mesmerized by “my smile and my dazzling teeth. Yep, it was definitely my ‘smile’ that won him over, ‘wink, wink,’” she laughed. “Or at least that's the PG version we prefer to tell.”

“He swore he would never fall for an actress, but we were married in 2001.”

Besides scoring “The Falling,” Nicole’s future husband also collaborated with Keith Scott to write a song for the movie. Keith is a phenomenal guitar player who has worked with Cher, Tina Turner, Bryan Ferry, Tom Cochrane, and Bryan Adams. Chris and Keith struck up such a friendship that Keith and Bryan attended Chris and Nicole’s wedding.

“You want to talk romantic?! Bryan Adams and Keith Scott performed ‘Heaven’ at our wedding. It was the song we danced to!”

“There’s always music playing in our house, Nicole continued. “I’m a sucker for a love song. I love love! Love is fantastic! It’s that thing you pine for when you are younger, but as you grow older, you realize that it’s something you have to work at and with to keep. Love matures mellows, the colors change, but the dance continues over the years.”

When AXS asked Nicole if she’d like to share some of her favorite love songs for a Valentine’s Day article, she replied, “Sure, give me a decade, any decade, and I’ll tell you my favorite love songs from that time,” she laughed. “We’ve got ‘Endless Love,’ I mean, come on now, ‘Endless Love,’ right? And there’s John Legend’s ‘All of Me.’ ‘Careless Whispers’ by Wham! and The Cure’s ‘Close to Me’ – what can I say, I’m a child of the 80s!”

“Then again, there’s always the option of taking keys to cars and bats to windows like Carrie Underwood’s ‘Before He Cheats,’” she mused. “I guess that would be the anti-Valentine’s Day song... or the empowering one? It depends on your perspective. It could be either; that’s what’s so cool about music!”

“Let’s wrap up with a couple from Bryan Adams,” Nicole concluded. “‘(Everything I Do) I Do It for You’ – give me a Spanish guitar anytime! And finally, for obvious reasons, ‘Heaven.’ I loved that song from way back in the olden days of being a teenager,” she recalled. “Seeing him perform... it was just one of those songs that made you believe, ‘I’m going to feel that one day!’ And then there I was, dancing to it at my wedding! It was kind of fun, cool, and magical. Life is cyclical, everything comes around again.”

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