

# Krystaal

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*“If I were a pastor, and I used to be, I would be clamoring to have these guys come to my church. They are the sweetest spirited men you will ever meet. What a powerful, powerful story and a life of miracles that God has brought to these precious brothers.”* Rev. Norm Maclaren, Vice President, Ministry, Crossroads Christian Communications.

Krystaal is an award winning, multi-talented group of three brothers who excel in various genres of music including R & B/Pop, Gospel, Urban and World (African). They are characterized by their tight vocal harmonies and an ability to sing to audiences anywhere in the world.

In **2004**, their album ‘Keep on Standing’ was honored with several awards and nominations including:

**Four gospel music MAJA Awards including**

- - Artist of the Year,
- - Group of the Year,
- - Album of the Year, and
- Canadian National Song of the Year

**Two Canadian Gospel Music Association awards for:**

- - Contemporary Gospel Album of the Year, and
- - Best Urban Song

**Four nominations by Canadian gospel music peoples’ choice VIBE Awards**

In **2004**, Krystaal performed in Tanzania, Africa to an audience of over 100,000 people, a truly amazing experience for the group. Soon after that, Krystaal toured Belgium, France and England where they were greeted with tremendous responses. In Birmingham,

England they performed at the Baptist World Congress where former President Jimmy Carter was the keynote speaker. Over 14,000 people from 117 different countries attended this event.

January of **2005**, Krystaal was honored to perform with Grammy nominated Fresh IE for the CBC fundraiser, the telethon which raised funds for victims of the December 2004 tsunami that devastated the Asian coast.

Appearing on the program with Krystaal, along with many other great Canadian musicians, were:

- Tom Cochrane
- Celine Dion
- Anne Murray
- Oscar Peterson
- RUSH
- Bryan Adams
- Jann Arden
- The Tragically Hip
- Blue Rodeo
- Daniel Lanois
- Sloan

In **2006** Krystaal released two albums and a music video. With a renewed vision for their work, they also created the ‘Krystaal Peace Tour’, with the goal to bring peace and reconciliation to the African nations. To that end, they traveled throughout Canada, and on to Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, France, England, Uganda, Nigeria, Malawi and their homeland of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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The group's founders, brothers Michel, Fabian and Aliston Lwamba, came to Canada from Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of Congo) having experienced many trials and hardships under a corrupt dictatorship. In 1989, after the Lubumbashi student massacre in Zaire, the Lwambas ran for their lives and were separated from each other, living in refugee camps for over five years, fearing that many of their relatives were dead.

The brothers survived violence, disease, depression, and hunger before Michel and Aliston were sponsored to come to Canada. Fabian, assumed to be dead, was miraculously reunited with his brothers and other family members in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1997. A book entitled 'Keep on Standing—the Story of Krystaal', chronicles the amazing journey of the three brothers.

Having formed the music group 'Krystaal' in Canada, the Lwambas have become ambassadors for peace and forgiveness, performing all over Canada, the United States, Africa and Europe.

## *Career Highlights*

**Tanzania 2004**, crusade with Christopher Mwakasege (average attendance was 124,000 daily for 15 days)

**Birmingham, UK, 2004**, World Baptist Congress 100th Anniversary with former President of the USA, Jimmy Carter and Pastor Rick Warren. (15,000 in attendance)

**Toronto Canada, June 2005**, World Refugee Day



**Toronto Canada, January 2005** 'Canada for Asia Tsunami Relief', with CBC television, Canada wide broadcast

**London, UK, 2006**, New Years Day/Eve at the New Wine Church, (9,000 in attendance)

**Mombassa Stadium Kenya 2008**  
Bishop Wilfred Lai (70,000 in attendance),

**Winnipeg, Manitoba**, the 10th International Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation (40,000 people from 81 countries around the world).

**Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 2008**, Baptist Convention, invitation by Pres. Jimmy Carter

**Mississauga, Canada, 2008**, World Vision Child Sponsorship event

**Toronto, Canada, 2008**  
Chinese Baptist Church, Peace Tour Concert  
Matthew House Home for Refugees  
Planet Africa TV

**Edmonton, Canada, 2008**  
Africa Gospel Concert the Citadel Theatre

**San Diego, USA, 2008**, Shadow Mountain Church

**Lake Forest California, 2008**, Saddle Back Church, Pastor Rick Warren

**Quebec, Canada, 2008**, tour of French language Concerts throughout Quebec

**Lagos, Nigeria, Africa, 2009**—One Million Man Crusade with Dr. Uma Oktai

**Mombassa, Kenya, JCC Mombassa, Pastor's Conference, Word Explosion, 2009**

**London, UK, 2009**, New Wine Church

**Banff, Alberta, 2009**, Canada, Canadian Baptist Ministries

**Trois Riviere, PQ, Canada**, Espoire (French ministry)

**Brussels, Belgium**, Nouvelle Jerusalem (French ministry)