

# THE ONE AND ONLY



## ANI DJIRDJIRIAN

29

LOS ANGELES, CA

HT: QUEENS, NY

SOCIAL WORKER / SPIRITUAL COACH

DIVORCED / NO KIDS

TRIVIA: 17/20

GENRE: R&B / POP

INSTRUMENTS: PIANO

 @ani\_d\_music

## ABOUT

Ani is a spiritual life coach who is now an Angeleno but hails from Queens. She has a wide vocal range, and can sing anything from Christina Aguilera to opera. Growing up, she used to watch *So You Think You Can Dance* – and she tried her best to mimic the choreography and sing along to the music. She was in dance troupes as a kid and even put on plays for her family at holiday parties. She is a proud Armenian and even organized a national advocacy effort to call representatives in response to conflict in Armenia. Now, Ani is ready to tell her story one song at a time on *The One & Only*.



## THE DETAILS

- ① Ani was the bubbly, loud, musical child of the family. In fact, her favorite video game was a music production video game for PlayStation 2, on which she learned to make beats. On the weekends when friends were at the mall or the movies, Ani was at rehearsal for her Armenian dance ensemble. She is deeply proud of her heritage and is the great-grandchild of genocide survivors on both sides of her family. She is now a vocal member of the Los Angeles Armenian community today when she's not using her voice to belt out ballads.
- ② She is a spiritual life coach, and describes the practice as a combination of Eastern and Western philosophies. Ani combines the Eastern holistic approach with the Western science and information based approach – all with the intention to bring her clients the most empathetic and informative experience possible. She is a great listener and considers her ability to comfort others a special skill.
- ③ Ani learned a lot about herself and her priorities through her divorce. When she was married, Ani completely stopped singing and writing music, and realize that a vital piece of herself was missing. Being able to make the decision independently was liberating, but also difficult. Ani says that Armenians do not traditionally get divorced, so overcoming her own cultural stigmas was challenging.
- ④ Ani is finally on the other side of her divorce and is responding the way she always does – by dancing in the rain. The life of the party, Ani loves bringing people together through music. She didn't realize how much she missed it until it was gone. Now, she's back in full swing and ready to face any challenge. One of Ani's favorite memories is hiking Mount Ararat's in Armenia, a mountain with a 12,000 foot peak. Despite twisting her ankle, she danced the whole way up the mountain... and is ready to bring the same positive, determined energy to *The One & Only*.

