

# 'I cheated death to be onstage'

## Award for Calypso Rose...

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After a fantastic performance during which Calypso Rose gave the audience a mini-biography of her career, she was presented with an award by promoters of the show, Randy Glasglow Productions, for her contribution to the culture of Trinidad and Tobago.

Calypso Rose told the thousands of fans she cheated death on two occasions, beating cancer, to be onstage that night with her voice intact.

"I thank the Lord for sustaining me so I can be on this stage tonight to tell you I feel like dancing," she said.

Rose continued: "I have been to Dublin, Ireland; Venice, Italy; and France—boy, they love me in France. People all over the world tell me they love the music of Trinidad and Tobago, but it is too fast and they can't dance to it. That is why I brought it down (slower) and recorded "Feel Like Dancing".

"I will be 71 years in April, so I no longer perform with high-heeled shoes. The NCC (National Carnival Commission) told me I won Road March on four occasions—and not two—so I am asking for my prize money, with interest!" She then performed "Fire Fire", one of her Road March songs.

Before she sang her other Road March winner, "Tempo", she told her audience when she was studying in New York, USA, everyday as she travelled on the E train, the noise made her homesick for Carnival.

"I was studying Criminology, Bombs and Bomb Scare and Narcotics, and one day in 1977, I decided to write a song during one of my classes. That's how 'Tempo' was born."

Rose said she will not be in Trinidad for Carnival as she leaves on March 4 for Australia and New Zealand.