Sister Rosetta Tharpe: The Godmother of Rock and Roll

Sister Rosetta Tharpe (1915-1973) was an important musician who pioneered early styles of rock, rhythm & blues, and pop gospel music. She played the electric guitar, wrote songs, sang, and performed her music all across the United States and Europe. Originally from Arkansas, she lived the last years of her life in Philadelphia. Today, you can visit the historical marker outside her home in the Yorktown neighborhood of North Philadelphia.

