

Jackie Bristow Songwriting and Performance Workshops

Music can help people express their feelings in a way speaking cannot and songwriting takes it a step further. Songwriting is a form of expression and self discovery and can offer emotional stability.

Possibly Bring along -

- * An instrument that you play (don't worry if you don't play an instrument or don't have any ideas started - but if you do we can use this to build on and develop)
- * Poetry ideas
- * Song titles
- * Lyric ideas
- * Melody ideas
- * Note Pad and Pen
- * Smartphone to record ideas (Smartphones will need to be on airplane mode during the workshop)

WHAT WE WILL COVER IN THE WORKSHOP

SING - Vocal warm ups.

LETS WRITE A SONG

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Start with writing 15 minutes of pages. This is not edited and it is private and like writing in a journal, no one will go back and read it. The exercise is freeing the mind and helps the creative flow. Good to practice daily to unlock the subconscious mind.

(Some students may have never written a song before and some students may be more advanced. We would start out as a group and gauge the level of the students.)

BRAINSTORM ideas as a group on the white board as a group.

WHAT WE WILL LEARN ABOUT SONGWRITING

Chord progressions

Adding melodies to lyrics and chords

Adding lyrics to melodies

Chords can evoke different emotions.. i.e minor chord could be sad and major is generally more happy

Structure of song

Title

Make a list of questions suggested by the title

Feeling, smell, description, rhymes, subject etc.

Choose a song structure (i.e verse/chorus/bridge)

Arrangement

Development line of story in the song.

Work on hook

Connect verse and chorus

Connect Bridge

Learn about rhythm in a song

Use a smartphone or GarageBand to record all ideas as we go.

COLLABORATION teaming up and learning the benefits of collaboration and combining ideas and writing a song together. If students already have a melodic ideas or poetry, lyric ideas or a journal this could be a great starting point when collaborating. I can also help students find a starting point.

Q & A - if the students have any questions about songwriting, or a musicians life and career, getting started as a professional artist, recording, music industry, touring, playing shows.

ONE ON ONE songwriting (if students want to write a song alone rather than collaboration, I could write with them and teach them one on one coaching)

SHARING the songs with the classroom. This sometimes can be nerve raking and it can also be exhilarating... remembering it is a safe place. Students that feel comfortable to perform will share the ideas and song with the classroom to build confidence and get positive feedback.

PERFORMANCE

Mic Technique,

Singing into a mic,

Speaking into a mic, learning to talk to your audience.

Playing your instrument to your song

Learning balance between your voice and mic

Learning balance between your voice and your instrument or your backing band etc.

Backing yourself.

Stage presence

Confidence

HOW -

PAGES - Start with writing 15 minutes of pages. This is not edited and it is private and like writing in a journal, no one will go back and read it. The exercise is to free the mind and help the creative flow. Good to practice daily and helps unlock the subconscious mind.

SONGWRITING ACTIVITIES –

WHERE TO START

STARTING POINT: WORDS

Exercise A1: Song topic ideas

Exercise A2: Lyric ideas

Exercise A3: Developing lyrics and bringing in music

Exercise A4 : Title

STARTING POINT: MUSIC

Exercise B1: Improvising a backing

Exercise B2: Adding a vocal/ melody and bringing in words

Exercise B3 : Finding the Hook/Chorus

PUTTING IT TOGETHER

Exercise C1: Reviewing the material

Exercise C2: Moving on/storyline/development

Exercise C3: Completing a chorus

Exercise C4: Completing verses

Exercise C5: Does the song need a bridge
Exercise C6 : Song Structure/Arrangement

TIPS and TRICKS

Exercise D1: Chord Progressions
Exercise D2 : Major and Minor Chords can evoke different emotions
Exercise D3: Structure of song
Exercise D4 : Hook
Exercise D5 : Development line of story in song
Exercise D6 : Description/Sense
Exercise D7 : Rhythm in song

RECORD - all ideas as you go along.

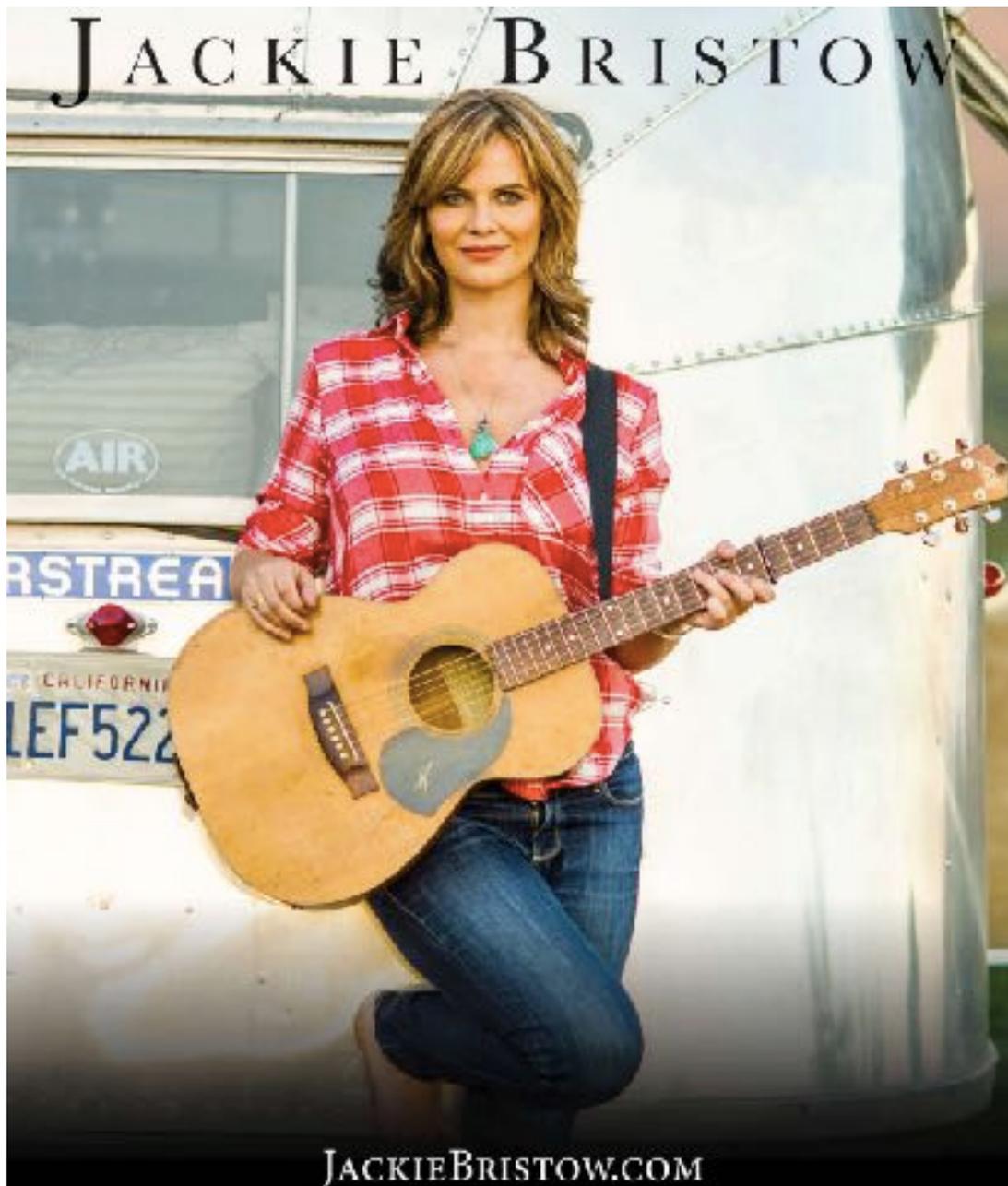
TIMELINE

DAY 1 - SONGWRITING AS A GROUP

11am - Introduction and vocal warm ups as a group
11.15am to 11.30am - Pages
11.30pm to 12.30pm - Brainstorming ideas on the white board Putting melody to chords, structure, hook building song and songwriting activities and techniques.
1pm to 1.30pm - LUNCH
2pm to 3pm - Complete song as a group and record to iPhone or Garage Band.

Day 2 - COLLABORATION

11am : Vocal Warm ups .
11:15 am - Pages.
11.30 am -1 PM Start collaborations - Find your songwriting partner. Pairing into twos or small groups and working writing starting a song together. (I will go around the groups and help and encourage the songs or if they need any help or guidance)
1pm to 1.30pm - LUNCH
2pm to 2.45pm - Continue working on songs and record to to device to have a record of it.
2.45pm to 3.15pm - Conclusion - if the song is finished play it to the class or even work in progress.



QT based Turn Up The Music Trust feel privileged to have Jackie tutoring these songwriting workshops and being an inspiration to our young QT singer songwriters.

She has opened for stars like Chris Isaak, Boz Skaggs, Bonnie Raitt, Foreigner, Tommy Emmanuel and The Steve Miller Band among others.

New Zealand born, Nashville based singer-songwriter Jackie Bristow, began singing and writing songs at an early age in Gore and first performed with her sister in their school church choir. The 'Bristow Sisters' toured the South Island of New Zealand making a name for themselves. Jackie's talent and songwriting skills saw her establish herself in the United States where she has been living and performing since 2005.

Jackie has continued writing and performing in North America and around the world with several albums under her name. She was on tour in New Zealand (happily for us) with her Blue Moon Rising tour when Lockdown prevented her return to Nashville.