

Quinn Squyres Artist Bio

“I wanted to pursue music for as long as I can remember,” recalls singer-songwriter Quinn Squyres, who cites the day that her parents agreed to piano lessons—when she was just six years old—as a particularly fond memory. Growing up, the artist’s tastes differed from those of her peers. When her friends were tuned into Top 40 radio, Quinn was listening to classical recordings, film scores, and Broadway musicals—which, luckily for the New Jersey native, were just a drive away. However, Quinn took particular notice of how her classmates bonded over hit songs, realizing how easily everyone connects to music. “It’s incredible how a song can resonate with an entire generation at one moment,” she muses. Throughout school, Quinn threw herself into the performing arts—taking voice lessons, and getting involved in the school’s band, orchestra, choir and, of course, all of the musicals.

Majoring in music at Columbia University, Quinn began collaborating with a good friend in her program. The duo wrote and performed together for several years—often with other musicians. “It was always different. Sometimes there would be up to 11 of us on stage,” she recalls. It was at these shows that the singer-songwriter became comfortable performing her own material, which, she notes, “Always feels more natural and less stressful because I know the pieces so well, and know exactly what I’m trying to convey.” One of the most rewarding parts of performing live, says Quinn, is when the audience connects with a song that she’s written. “They breathe life into it in a way that I couldn’t do on my own.”

When it comes to songwriting, Quinn finds that it’s both a fulfilling and stressful process. “There are hundreds of incredible songs and there is nothing worse than spending days on material that you think adds nothing to the repertoire.” However, she adds, “There is nothing better than writing a song that you think is as good as some ‘real’ songs. It’s wonderful to feel like you have managed to communicate a very precise feeling.” Indeed, Quinn’s introspective lyrics paint deeply honest pictures, as heard in songs like “Good Man,” “Don’t Need a Reason,” and “Love Too Good.” Yet, interestingly, the majority of her moody, electro-pop tunes aren’t based on her own life, but follow the storylines of fictional characters—inspired by films or friends’ experiences.

Though a melody will usually come first to Quinn, followed by lyrics, she doesn’t have a typical creative method—“I’ve written songs on the piano, on guitar, and a cappella. I’ve challenged myself to write in the style of a specific artist or to craft a certain type of song to fill out a setlist.” For her most recent material, Quinn collaborated with co-writer and producer Alex Houton, of AHM Media—whose credits include work with Jennifer Lopez, Panic at the Disco, and Jet—while the songs were deftly mixed by six-time GRAMMY® Award-winning engineer Brian Vibberts (Mariah Carey, Lauryn Hill, Natasha Beddingfield).

Looking ahead, the New York-based artist is working on an EP and making plans to perform at some of the city’s most iconic venues. But, most importantly, she says, “What I really want is to have people who love my music and who choose to play my songs when it’s late at night and

they're heading home." She adds, "I just want to keep writing music that's fun to sing and that feels cathartic to me and, hopefully, to others."