

Abby Grace - Biography

“Putting the living room back in the music” – Emmylou Harris

When Abby heard this saying, it spoke to her heart and soul, and her belief that music is made to be shared. Coupled with a strong vision that music can bring peace to the world, her songs are her contribution to this cause to which she is deeply committed.

Born in Hearst and growing up in Hornepayne, Ontario, Abby Grace was not exposed to a great deal of world music as a youngster, but looking at the gusto with which she pursues music for the pure joy of it today, the only explanation is that she was born with it coursing through her veins! Having only latently decided to truly follow her musical bliss in earnest in 2012, Abby taught herself how to play guitar (a hand-built cigar box model to boot!), written around a hundred original songs, and racked up dozens of local live appearances. Sometimes in life we have itches to scratch, and the passionate way Abby has launched herself into her musical adventures is a perfect illustration of that notion in action.

Abby's original material is unfailingly upbeat, jaunty and celebratory, projecting inclusive messages of hope and joy. She injects her music with a playful innocence, reflective of the fun she had when singing in a vocal group on CBC in Grades 7 and 8. And now, although relatively late in life to take it up, Abby is pursuing a musical dream held since she was that child, and it would seem from the reactions to her songs and performances that it is indeed a dream come true!

Abby's debut release was the Abby's Amblings EP (2016), a six-song release resulting directly from a chain of events starting by pure chance in a Nashville, TN bar. The songs have attracted the attention of circles within Nashville's publishing and songwriting communities, and in turn that of The Hermit's Music. As a consequence of the latter's involvement, a second EP, entitled Senses of the Sea, was released mid-August 2017. Bearing nautical and oceanic themes, the 9-song CD was overseen and released by The Hermit's Music's Paul Bezooyen, who contributes guitars, percussion and backing vocals. Also on board are Dave Barta (Celtic Chaos) on accordion, piano and backing vocals; Rod Sauer (harmonica) Kenny Brault (mandolin); Linda Bezooyen (harmony vocals) and Abby's grandchildren Aiden, Ethan and Cole on gang vocals! Based on the songs from her Senses of the Sea album, Abby has created a wonderful activity book for children (and those who are young at heart) as well as a children's musical audiobook, featuring short dialogues along with sing along songs, and a focus on inspiring imagination and fun.

July 2019 marked the Release of Abby's Amblings 2 - a 9 song EP which is an extension of the work she has done with Rojo Marlowe in Nashville, and those involved in Abby's Debut album mentioned above.

In March of 2020, Abby and Paul consolidated Abby's Amblings 1 and 2, into Abby's Amblings-The Path, to include the interesting and synchronistic story of how it all began with her visit to Nashville in 2014, and her friendship with Rojo Marlowe who plays the instrumental parts on the CD. Also included are the smooth harmonies of Paul Bezooyen, Megan Keene and Linda Bezooyen, and Alex Travers of Asheville TN contribution of a soulful violin track on Over You.

It is a testament to her creative energy that, while producing Abby's Amblings-The Path, Abby was hard at work on her next project which will be a 100 % Hermit's Music production. Together with producer Paul Bezooyen, Abby will be exploring a whole new singer/songwriter acoustic sound and texture for her new album, Wanna Change the World, employing the following veteran studio musicians:

Paul Bezooyen - Producer, guitar, percussion, harmonies, co-writer on Look Up

Megan Keene: harmonies Joe Spinelli – bass; Dave Barta – piano; Rod Sauer – harmonica;

Andrew Bezooyen- guitar and his lovely wife, Linda Bezooyen- Harmonies

John Fowler - mandolin, darbuka drum; Alex Travers, Asheville TN - violin

Dale Allen Pommer, Nashville TN- co-writer of Keep it Simple

Whether performing solo acoustic shows, or playing in various bands/groups, Abby Grace is absolutely in her element, taking the audience with her in a singalong celebration of music and life's joys and quirks, always with the intent of putting the living room back in the music.