

5 QUESTIONS WITH

singer Chloe Dolandis

1 Tell us a little bit about yourself. How did you get into singing? What is your earliest memory of singing?

Music runs in my blood! My grandfather was a big band leader/trumpet player and

my grandmother was a singer -- my dad was, and still is, a professional musician and my mom did a lot of musical theatre as I was growing up. I pursued musical theatre for a while but once I started going to live concerts as a teenager that

translated into pop music.

My earliest memory of singing...I remember being a flower girl in a wedding (of my babysitter) when I was three. While we waited to walk down the aisle I made up a song and sang it to myself, "One by one..." I think realizing that I could have fun doing something creative, to occupy myself, when I was so young helped to shape me as a writer and singer. I never finished that song but maybe I should now...

2 What is your favorite local venue to play and why?

I love playing at Arts Garage -- the audience is so receptive and the sound is great. Every time we have a show there I feel the love for days after! The fact that the venue supports original music is huge for me as well, and the "BYOW" concept makes it feel very much like a home, creating an intimate environment.

3 Where do you get your inspiration for your music from?

Inspiration creeps up whenever I seek it, and sometimes when I'm not even trying to find it. Everyday life is an unending well of ideas and I've trained myself to tap into those to get creative. I'm inspired by everything from conversations, to buildings, to nature, to other people's music. It's my job as a songwriter to translate my viewpoint of the world into song, so I do whatever I need to in order to accomplish that. Really, understanding how to draw inspiration from anywhere is like a muscle -- the more you exercise it, the stronger it gets.

4 Tell us what you are working on now.

I've had the recent honors of being a finalist in NSAI's Song Contest presented by CMT and a semi-finalist in the International Songwriting Competition for my



song "One Man's White Trash (Is Another Man's Treasure)" (co-written by Zach Ziskin). I'm riding those waves right now, which is a blast. Toplining (writing lyrics and melodies over chord progressions/tracks) has been a huge priority for me lately and I'm really excited to be working with some extremely talented and successful people in that sphere. I'm also in "artist development" mode for myself now and plan on releasing more new, original music soon!

5 Describe your ideal day in South Florida. Where can we find you and what are you doing?

My ideal day in South Florida would include meals at one some of my favorite restaurants (e.g. DaDa in Delray, Sublime in Ft. Lauderdale, or the Honey Tree in Miami), there would definitely be time outside (on the Ave., at the beach,in Wynwood), and, no question, I would do something music-related (perhaps have studio time and/or write a new song)! There's a great chance I'd get a massage, too...

But, most importantly, I'd spend time with the people I love. South Florida is home to me because of my friends and family who live here, and I absolutely love home sweet home. ■

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