

Hannah Christianson - Bio

A Boston transplant with Midwestern roots, Hannah Christianson is an award-winning indie singer-songwriter who writes straight from the heart. Fusing her signature messages of self-healing, universal love, and exploring deeper truths with courage and resilience, Hannah's music bears witness to the full spectrum and experience of being human. With heartfelt vocals and bold piano accompaniments, Christianson's performances radiate with "a good mix of sweetness and pop sensibility, with an engaging voice that sounds like fine wine" (Peter Swenson, Social Media Director - CDBaby). As a traveling soul on a journey of self-discovery through music, Christianson's writing encompasses the human condition with honesty, beauty, and hope.

Growing up in a lively family of seven, the young Hannah learned to perceive the world and art in her own unique way. Even at a very early age, Hannah became enamored with the piano and immersed herself into jazz and piano-based pop music. Years later, Hannah played various clubs around the upper Midwest, including a performance at the Winnipeg Folk Festival (2008).

Hannah continued to pursue music after receiving a scholarship to attend the world-renowned Berklee College of Music. While there, she was a winner and finalist in several international songwriting festivals including the John Lennon Songwriting Contest (2012) and Great American Song Contest (2012), as well as Berklee-based competitions including: The Best of Berklee Songwriter Showcase, The Perfect Pitch Contest, Songwriting for Social Change Contest, Performer/Songwriter Contest, Songwriting Competition, and the Berklee In The Groove / Guitar Center Songwriting Competition. While at Berklee, Christianson released her debut album, *The Part That Knows*, in the spring of 2012, and toured in the summer of 2012 along the east coast and in the midwest to further promote the album.

Christianson received a dual degree in both Music Therapy and Songwriting, with a minor in psychology. In 2013, Hannah brought her pioneering spirit to Boston Children's Hospital by becoming the first music therapy intern there and assisting in the development of its creation. While there, she completed 1,200 hours of supervised training, and officially became a board-certified music therapist in November of 2013. She continued to explore the healing arts, and became certified as a 200hr RYT after completing her yoga teacher training at South Boston Yoga in August of 2014.

The next two years were spent diving into a period of spiritual growth, mindfulness, and creating music that reflected her journey. Christianson began to share her new music with audiences across New England and across the nation, quickly becoming a major player in the singer/songwriter community. In 2015, she won the

15th Annual Lizard Lounge Main Event, a Cambridge-based songwriting content featuring over 30 of New England's premiere performing musicians. In partnership with BE Colleges, she conducted a national college tour, performing at colleges and universities from Nebraska to New Jersey to Pennsylvania and more. In the meantime, Hannah's music was also licensed through SongFreedom, and Hannah's song "A Hundred Hearts" quickly became a popular song featured in wedding videos throughout the world. Additional tracks have also been featured in other small films and short documentaries through SongFreedom and other small publishing / licensing companies.

In addition to this, Hannah also collaborated during this time with fellow songwriters and artists. She formed a folk-pop duo, *The Arrow and the Bow*, with fellow midwestern songstress Hillary Reynolds, sharing their music with audiences worldwide, including a tour in Ireland and Scotland, and the New England and Midwest regions of the US. Hannah's songs, "Universe" and "Spirit Eyes," were performed across the world by acclaimed female a cappella group, *Women of the World*. She was also able to travel to Kenya with *Global Youth Groove*, a non-profit organization dedicated to serving and empowering impoverished communities in Kenya through music education.

By 2016, Christianson had developed a repertoire of new music that reflected her own personal growth and spiritual journey. In July 2016, she released her debut music video, "Atoms," which was lauded by Red Line Roots as "a reminder that there is beauty in the world in the wake of terrible things that transpire across the globe. That, if we wish to seek those things out, they do exist..." Christianson released her long-awaited sophomore album, *Grow The World You're Dreaming Of*, to a sold-out audience in December 2016. The album was received with celebratory acclaim. In the spring of 2017, Hannah received 1st place in the Pop Category of the Great American Song Contest with her song, "Break the Frame." Her song, "Atoms," was also a finalist in the Adult Contemporary category.

Christianson has opened for a selection of well-respected artists including Couer De Pirate, Jen Chapin, and Raining Jane, and plans to open for Emily Elbert in April 2017. A deeply feeling artist who creates meaningful, heartfelt music, Christianson is already working on assembling her next collection of recordings, and continues to perform throughout the midwest and New England area. Combining her extensive studies in music therapy, songwriting, and as a certified yoga teacher, Christianson is also exploring new avenues for sharing music interactively for self-transformation - particularly through workshops and yoga classes, combining music with meditation and movement. Using her music and performances as vehicles to share her personal journey of self-healing and self-discovery, Christianson combines her own reflections with the living environment created by those around her for an intimate, transformative experience for performer and audience alike.

Press Quotes

"There is a sweetness to the voice of singer Hannah Christianson. A tenderness in each whispering breath that dances elegantly over the delicate touch of each piano key. Her voice floats and dips in a calming and ethereal sort of way. It seems effortless, but its beauty is undeniable."

-Brian Carroll, Red Line Roots

"A good mix of sweetness and pop sensibility, with an engaging voice that sounds like fine wine."

-Peter Swenson, Director of Social Media at CDBaby

"Hannah accompanies herself on piano and guitar with confidence and panache, and her music and lyrics are irresistible, filled with joy, humor and love of life. I'm not sure if she is capable of writing a non-catchy tune. The whole world will be singing Hannah's songs sometime very soon."

-Michael Wartofsky

Professor, Berklee College of Music

"She is that particular brand of lovely that inspires painters to paint and singers to sing.... Hannah herself demonstrates impeccable control over both her voice and the piano."

-Mahealani Lee

Yeah, Uh-Huh Music Blog "Her music and lyrics are irresistible, filled with joy, humor and love of life...The whole world will be singing Hannah's songs sometime very soon." (Michael Wartofsky, Professor - Berklee College of Music).

Notable Venues

Boston:

Berklee Performance Center

Club Passim

Cafe 939

Middle East Corner, Middle East Upstairs,

The Burren Backroom Series

The Lizard Lounge

Gallery 263

South Boston Yoga

JPCentre Yoga

Chakra Power Yoga

New York:

Arlene's Grocery

Rockwood Music Hall

The Living Room

Portland:

One Longfellow Square

Connecticut:

The Buttonwood Tree

Vermont:

Radio Bean

Midwest:

The Fargo Theatre

The Hotel Donaldson

Target Fireworks

Winnipeg Folk Festival

Taste of Wisconsin Festival

Bab's Coffeehouse

Acadia Cafe