



## PODCAST #25 – SHOW NOTES

### FALL IN LOVE WITH YOUR SONGS

#### Hey creatives!

You're listening to podcast #25 of the **Coffee With Camilla** podcast where we discuss the music industry! I'm your host Camilla Kleindienst with Banner Music in Nashville TN. Believe it or not - performing artists struggle with falling in love with their own songs! Loving them MORE than the cover tunes that they clearly love. This is a strange concept but I'll explain it.

Usually songwriters and artists fell in love with songs and music which motivated them to learn to play an instrument, write songs and perform. If you think about it, when someone asks you what was the first concert you attended, what is the first album you bought, what is the first song you learned to play on an instrument or sing, your eyes light up and you have a pretty dramatic story to tell.

When you enter into the music industry as a songwriter you usually love every song you write in some way or another but can you love any of them as much as those cover songs you are emotionally connected to? I believe you can at least for some of the songs. You will never love every song to the level you want to perform it every show or songwriter round. But you know when you have stand out songs. You know when a song has something special about it.

If you are a songwriter but not a performing artist pursuing a recording contract you can love any of your songs or all of your songs and have a few favorites for whatever reason. But if you are a songwriter pursuing a recording contract you **MUST FALL IN LOVE** with your songs.

#### Scenario:

You are a full or part time songwriter pursuing a recording contract with a record label. You are writing a lot and also other songwriters or publishers are pitching your songs. As you make song decisions for your shows or recorded projects - you

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MUST deliver a believable performance of that song on stage every time you perform it and also in the studio when you record it. If you don't LOVE the song - how are you going to accomplish the believable performance. How are you going to convince the listener you **"Turned 21 In Prison Doing Life Without Parole"** if that is not your life story? That's a song reference to Merle Haggard in case you don't know - Look it up if you don't know it.

It's your job as a performer to convince listeners or the audience you really MEAN what you are singing. It sounds so easy to do but it's much harder to accomplish. Have you ever had to sell something you DON'T believe it? It's extremely hard and deflating! But when you have to sell something you TRULY love and believe it, it's so much easier and you feel confident!

So think about this. If you are really solidly pursuing a career as a performing artist you are probably writing every day, rehearsing with your band, working on networking, booking shows, working on social media and who knows what. Your life is VERY full musically. And you probably have some sort of family life mixed in there too.

And your show are probably 80% cover songs and 20% original songs. You are meticulously creating a set list that represents you as an artist - so the cover tunes are very familiar songs you have heard a million times and you probably love them that is why you are performing them. But those original songs are harder to love because you haven't heard them a million times and your band worked out production to a work session recording. There were no major label master recording riffs or production vibes for the band to mimic or copy, therefore you may not love the way the band is performing your originals.

These issues with your original songs must be worked through so you can fall in love with your original songs. It's not easy. It's not the glamorous side of your music career. It's the clunky and maybe tedious side of your artistry. But it has to be done in order for you to fall in love with your songs and perform them to the level of the cover songs. And another thing after going through all the effort to improve the arrangements of the original songs and get rehearsing them and

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placed into your set list, you are still writing songs every day so you continue to write better and better songs so it's like a vicious cycle. You pull one song out of your set list you have been working on for 3 months because you have written a better song you love more or as you develop the most recent written song just makes sense to be placed in the set list instead of the song you have been working on for the last several months.

Bottom line is this - YOU MUST SPEND TIME (a lot of time) with your original songs in order to fall in love with them to the level you love cover songs. And your songs deserve your love!

Am I making sense? So here's the deal - you are a songwriter pursuing a recording contract. You are writing so many songs you can't even begin to spend any time with them. You are writing 3 to 5 songs per week, you are working songs up with your band and adding them to your set list and performing shows but you can't FALL in LOVE with the songs because as you develop as an artist and writer you are continually improving so you are pulling and replacing songs into your set list. These are the right things to be doing because as you develop you improve your performance skills, the craft of songwriting and hone in on your brand (who you are as an artist) you want to change out those better and better songs that are part of who you are becoming as an artist.

But BOY! Is it exhausting! And it's exciting at the same time!

There are no shortcuts, there is no way around this scenario. You just have to dig in and get busy. The more shows you perform with your original songs in them, the more you will fall in love with your songs. The MORE band rehearsals you have, the more you will fall in love with your songs. Time with songs = Love for songs

When I work with artists - I can hear the conviction and confidence in their voice and their performance of cover songs. If I don't hear that same confidence in the original songs, I know they don't love the songs. I know they don't spend enough time with their music. Either they are not having enough rehearsals where they are working out newer songs therefore the artist is performing older originals they

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don't love for their "brand" or "show" anymore or the artist is performing an original they haven't spent enough time with in order to fall in love with it.

This is an issue every performing songwriter must tackle if they want anybody to believe in them, invest in them, back them, buy their music, buy tickets to their shows or anything.

Thank you for listening to podcast #25 of the **Coffee With Camilla Podcast Titled: Fall In Love With Your Songs**

I hope I've given you some ideas on how you can fall in love with your original songs.

Please don't forget to **SUBSCRIBE & SHARE** this podcast with your songwriter, musician and performing artist friends.

Look for show notes on my website: **CoffeeWithCamilla.com**  
We'll talk again soon! Stay Creative