



## Bio

PJ Brunson was born in El Paso, Texas, the daughter of a gentle artist mother and a musician cowboy father with good looks and a wandering eye. She grew up in little Lugoff, South Carolina, learning discipline and perseverance from her loving adoptive father. These skills she applied to her musical studies and started performing as soon as she could drive. When she left Lugoff for college on a music scholarship, the town's denizens changed the population count on the Welcome sign from 2078 to 2077.

She was influenced from a very early age by her guitar picking grandfather who would nightly croon love songs from the living room while PJ sat at his knee. Since then she has been constantly growing as a musician soaking up influences from every genre of music. They all molded PJ in some way, making her today a seasoned performer comfortable in many acoustic genres. Her performances of witty, heart-felt original music are peppered with covers by artists she respects like Joan Baez, Simon and Garfunkel, Indigo Girls, Green Day, James Taylor, Alison Krauss, and Mary Chapin Carpenter.

Over the course of her career, PJ has toured the Southeast, and opened for the likes of Nanci Griffith, Lyle Lovett, Peter Finger, and the Charlotte Pops. Her friendly and engaging stage presence pulls the audience in one listener at a time for an intimate musical experience.

She is an accomplished guitarist, with a finger style of playing that's all her own. She is also an adept solo piano performer, with many original pieces in her repertoire. The performance possibilities are many: solo guitar work, inspiring original songs, interesting cover versions, or her own new age piano pieces.

PJ's voice has been compared to Joan Baez and Anne Murray, and one listener offered: *"I must admit that your voice entertained my ears much like a rare port entertains my tongue. Smooth and rich with subtle flavors of nature."*

PJ's debut CD, "Come Hell or High Water" has received airplay from various radio stations across the United States including WGWG Boiling Springs, NC; WSGE Gaston College; WFSS Fayetteville, NC; WBZK Rock Hill, SC; WTRR Dallas, Texas, and the nationally syndicated PBS show, Women In Music. It has also received airplay in the European markets in Belgium and Spain.

One listener wrote of PJ's most recent collection, *"A well done recording of heartfelt tunes about people like you and me, our fathers, mothers, and grandparents. PJ knows how to tell a story, and hold our attention. And after the song is over, it's still there in our head, to be played again and again."*

The CD is available online at [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com).



## **Track Record**

### **Awards**

PJ has gained attention as a songwriter in national and regional competitions including:

- ◆ American Song Festival, Honorable Mention
- ◆ Charlotte NSAI/CMT/Mars Music Open Mic Songwriting Contest, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- ◆ Hank Williams Song Writing Contest, Flat Rock Music Festival, Flat Rock, NC 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- ◆ WESC Country Song Writing Contest, Greenville, SC 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

She has also attracted attention as an entertainer earning the following kudos:

- ◆ Best Acoustic Folk Act, Creative Loafing, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Southeast Music Conference, Tampa, FL Showcase Act
- ◆ You Can Be a Star Talent Search, Nashville, TN Advancing to Second Round
- ◆ WSOC Country Talent Roundup, Charlotte, NC

### **Tracks**

PJ has opened for the following fine performers:

#### **Openers:**

- ◆ Charlotte Pops, Freedom Park & SouthPark Mall, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ David Childers, Sylvia Theater, York, SC
- ◆ Peter Finger, Sylvia Theater, York SC
- ◆ Danielle Howle, Sylvia Theater, York, SC
- ◆ Lyle Lovette, Spirit Square, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Nanci Griffith, Spirit Square, Charlotte, NC

She has performed at numerous colleges, festivals, special events, restaurants and nightclubs across the Southeast.



### **Festivals:**

- ◆ Christmas In Davidson, Davidson, NC
- ◆ Come See Me Festival, Rock Hill, SC
- ◆ Dilworth Jubilee, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Festival In the Park, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Fish Camp Jam, Gastonia, NC
- ◆ LakeFest, Cornelius, NC
- ◆ OctoberFest, Chester, SC
- ◆ Rock Hill Jubilee, Rock Hill, SC
- ◆ SpringFest, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Tega Cay SummerFest, Tega Cay, SC
- ◆ York SummerFest, York, SC

### **Special Events:**

- ◆ Barnes & Noble Bookstores, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Blockbuster Pavilion Side Stages, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Borders Books & Music, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Center for Positive Living, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Charlotte Parks & Recreation "Art in the Park" Series, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Charlotte Komen Race for the Cure, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ First Night Charlotte, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ First Union Special Events, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Fret & Fiddle, Winston-Salem, NC
- ◆ Founder's Hall, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Great Aunt Stella Center, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ NationsBank Special Events, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Record Exchange, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Radisson, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Rose Hill Pig Pickin', Shelby, NC
- ◆ Unity of Charlotte, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ University Hilton, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Wachovia Bank Special Events, Charlotte, NC

### **Clubs:**

- ◆ Alley Café, Columbia, SC
- ◆ Amos', Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Artist's Café, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Bayou Kitchen, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Bermuda Palms, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Beau's, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Big Dog's, Hilton Head, SC



- ◆ Blarney Stone, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Bogart's, Waynesville, NC
- ◆ Bogart's, Statesville, NC
- ◆ Bourbon Street Yacht Club, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Broad Street Station, Gastonia, NC
- ◆ Café 99, Charleston, SC
- ◆ Cellar, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Cumberlands, Charleston, SC
- ◆ Dilworth Coffee House, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Dilworth Brewing Company, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Drip's, Hickory, NC
- ◆ Evening Muse, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Fifth Street Café, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ For What It's Worth, Rock Hill, SC
- ◆ Foundry, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Garcia's, Columbia, SC
- ◆ Grey Eagle, Black Mountain, NC
- ◆ Hartigan's, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Hayden's, Pineville, NC
- ◆ Hayden's On the Park, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ H. Dundee's, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Holiday Inn, Banner Elk, NC
- ◆ Holiday Inn, Rock Hill, SC
- ◆ Horse's Mouth, Winston-Salem, NC
- ◆ Jackson's Java, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Klondike's, Boone, NC
- ◆ Mac Mac's, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Manhattan's, Knoxville, TN
- ◆ McDibb's, Asheville, NC
- ◆ Milestone Club, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Mill, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Midtown Sundries, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ North Harbor Café, Davidson, NC
- ◆ Park Hotel, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Pewter Rose Bistro, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Prism's Bistro, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Rainbow Deli, Charlotte and Lake Norman, NC
- ◆ Rheinland Haus, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Shark Finn's, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Shoney's Inn, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Spaghetti Warehouse, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Standing Room Only, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Sweet Union Café, Monroe, NC
- ◆ Town Pump, Black Mountain, NC
- ◆ Tracks, Columbia, SC



- ◆ Trio's, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Trolley's End, Charlotte, NC
- ◆ Tropical Escape, Rock Hill, SC
- ◆ The Welkin, Bryson City, NC



## Song List

### Originals

Angelica	Marvel Mystery Oil
Autumn's End	My Mother the Artist
Big Rocket	Moonlight Waltz
Blue Lullaby	Morning Song
Bitter End	Night Train
Captain	Passion
Cathy's Song	Pegasus
Cold Tennessee Rain	Reflections
Come Hell or High Water	Safe Harbor
Congaree	San Pedro Moon
Cowboy	She Was Born
Crystal Glass of Romance	Siren Song
Daddy's Hands	Still Waters
Daybreak	Sweetheart's Arms
Dragonfly Dance	Take Me Home
Dun Leary Sunrise	The Other Side
Empty Fields	This Was Love to Me
For Grandma	Trinity
Free to Choose	Wishes
Hard for a Country Girl	
Heart of the Emerald Isle	
Hearts A' Sail	
Hill Country Rain	
Homecoming	
Home to Me	
Hope	
It's All Right to Cry	
I Want to Sing You A Love Song	
I Was Born	
Keep On Walkin	
Keltic Midnight	
Lay Me Down	
Like the Rain	
Little Boy Blue	
Long Road	
Lullaby	
Maggie's Eyes	



## Song List

### Covers

American Pie - Don McLean  
Amy - Pure Prairie League  
Angel From Montgomery - John Prine/Bonnie Raitt  
Avanlanche - Shawn Colvin  
Brown Eyed Girl - Van Morrison  
California Dreamin' - Mommas & the Pappas  
Closer to Fine - Indigo Girls  
Danny's Song - Kenny Loggins  
Diamonds & Rust - Joan Baez  
Don't Think Twice - Bob Dylan  
Easy From Now On - Emmylou Harris  
Found Out About You - Gin Blossoms  
Good Riddance - Green Day  
Gone Again - Indigo Girls  
Grandpa - The Judds  
Hard Life - Nanci Griffith  
He Thinks He'll Keep Her - Mary Chapin Carpenter  
House of the Rising Sun - The Animals  
I Go Out Walkin' - Patsy Cline  
In This Life - Collin Ray  
I Will Always Love You - Dolly Parton  
I Wish It Would Rain - Nanci Griffith  
If - Bread  
If I Had a Boat - Lyle Lovette  
If Wishes Were Changes - Nanci Griffith  
If You Could Read My Mind - Gordon Lightfoot  
I'll Be - Edwin McCain  
I Want to Sing You A Love Song - Kenny Loggins/Ann Murray  
Jesse - Janis Ian  
Jolene - Dolly Parton  
Kid Fears - Indigo Girls  
Landslide - Fleetwood Mac

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Leaving by Night - Janis Ian  
Leaving On A Jet Plane - Peter, Paul & Mary  
Louise - John Prine/Bonnie Raitt  
Love at the Five and Dime - Nanci Griffith  
Love Is A Rose - Linda Rondstadt  
Love Me - Collin Ray  
Love Will Keep Us Alive - The Eagles  
Me & Julio - Simon & Garfunkle  
Morning Sky - Dan Fogelberg  
Norwegian Wood - The Beatles  
Ordinary No - Kenny Chesnee  
Paradise - John Prine  
Passionate Kisses - Lucinda Williams/Mary Chapin Carpenter  
Peaceful Easy Feeling - The Eagles  
Puff the Magic Dragon - Peter, Paul & Mary  
Quittin' Time - Mary Chapin Carpenter  
Snowbird - Ann Murrury  
Take It Easy - The Eagles  
Rocky Top - Traditional  
Tears In Heaven - Eric Clapton  
Tell Me Why - Wynonna  
The Boxer - Simon & Garfunkle  
The Gambler - Dan Fobelberg  
The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down - Joan Baez  
The Raven - Dan Fogelberg  
Wayfaring Stranger - Emmylou Harris  
Time In A Bottle - Jim Croce  
Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow - Carole King  
When You Say Nothing At All - Keith Whitley/Allison Krauss  
Why Not Me - The Judds  
Will the Circle- The Carter Family  
Yesterday - The Beatles