

SHORT BIO (242 WORDS)

# ANDY GARTRELL

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Charismatic storyteller Andy Gartrell is the most prolific loop artist currently on Wellington's musical scene. With his folk-pop sound, confessional songwriting and crowd-pleasing wit, locals have long been suspicious that Andy is, in fact, the lovechild of Ed Sheeran and Elton John. But it hasn't always been that way.

Picture this: it's early 2010, Katy Perry's 'California Gurls' is rocking the charts, and there's an awkward kiwi boy playing the same 4 James Blunt songs over and over on an isolated street corner in Wellington, New Zealand. That was the day Andy Gartrell began his musical career, making just enough money to catch the train back home.

Years later, after buying his first loop pedal in an effort to emulate Ed Sheeran, Andy returned to busking (this time choosing locations that attracted actual people) and began to build a loyal social media following.

Since then, he's gone on to perform at Wellington City Council's Garden's Magic, SoFar and Cuba Dupa, open for kiwi pop-singer Abby Wolfe and folk artist Graeme James, and headline countless venues across the country.

Having recently embarked upon a 'one song a week' challenge, 2019 has proven to be Andy's most creative year yet, with new singles hitting all major streaming platforms every few weeks.

From heart-breaking ballads to party-starting bops, this singer/songwriter's sound has never felt more current, honest or relatable, perfectly capturing what it means to be a twenty-something in all it's devastating, rose-tinted glory.