

## Francine Honey

**International Award-Winning Singer-Songwriter & Recording Artist  
Americana, Alt-Country, Singer-Songwriter, Folk, Blues**



Hard-luck stories can have happy endings. Especially in Francine Honey's world. With a mission of helping people get through life with music, Honey offers “real” music that is described as a mixed tape of Americana, Alt-Country, Singer-Songwriter, Folk, and Blues. Some sass mixed in with a unique voice as sweet as Honey but most of all, Honey tells stories in her songs, and she has a lot of stories to tell!

Her own journey through life's changes has been years in the making. Although she's been making music since childhood, Honey never dreamed of making it a career. Instead, she studied mathematics and computer science, got married, had kids, and worked as a project manager in the Canadian Federal Government. Her life seemed perfect. Then a near-simultaneous breakup and job loss forced her to relocate, find a new career and raise a family alone. Music went on the back burner; she never stopped writing, but songs went unfinished. “I finally realized I had stories to share, and there was still an opportunity for me to at least try and turn my musical hobby into my profession.”

So, she left her full-time job in 2013 to pursue music full-time under her maiden name Francine Leclair. Along the way, the down-to-earth artist has displayed extraordinary dedication to her craft. She self-produced her 2008 debut album *An Ordinary Woman* in her living room. It was followed in 2014 by *Re-Drawn*, produced by Lang Bliss in Nashville. In 2015, she re-recorded many of her early songs for the EP *An Ordinary Woman (In Studio)* with Mark Plancke of SharkTank Productions in Windsor, ON. Honey took a few years to work on her craft, studying, exploring, and chasing her sound.

In 2018, she began working with GRAMMY-nominated producer Neilson Hubbard in Nashville, TN. Honey recorded her full-length album *to be continued... live off the floor and in six days. to be continued...* has received critical acclaim internationally, and her song “Stay” was a top 10 finalist in the **2018 International Songwriting Competition** in two categories. Honey’s songwriting was recognized from more than 19,000+ entries around the world, receiving semi-finalist nominations in both the Americana and Blues categories. In addition, “Stay” was a semi-finalist in the **2018 Canadian Songwriting Competition** (Folk/Singer/Songwriter). The **Austin Songwriting Group** in Texas awarded her first-place honours in the Country category for “Stay” and first place in the Singer-Songwriter category for “Can’t Break Through to You” in April 2020, along with five other song placements. The song and video “Snowflakes On My Eyelashes” which features mentor and friend Beth Nielsen Chapman (“This Kiss”) garnered over 1.5 million views and its accompanying was a finalist in the **UK Songwriting Contest**.

As a bilingual artist, Honey released the single “Chez mon oncle Lucien” in Mar 2019. This song received regular radio play on Sirius XM as well as internationally.

Honey released the album *Take Me to the North Pole* in 2019 featuring 2 original songs along with re-imagined Christmas classics with a Country-Americana southern swagger. This album made **Rolling Stone Magazine’s Top 50 Christmas Albums of the year**.

This has been followed by 5 singles from her upcoming full-length album, starting with "Red Sky" late in 2019. When the pandemic hit the world in March of 2020, Honey jumped onto the internet with a weekly livestream "Honey In Your Coffee" all while continuing to record and release music and videos internationally.

Honey released a song of gratitude to all essential workers entitled "I Carry On" (May 2020) with a music video dedicated to them. This song has reached over 1 million people and has received radio airplay. It was a semi-finalist in both the International Songwriting Contest and the UK Songwriting Competition.

October 2020 saw the release of an A and B side single double single release with "2020 Vision" and "Can't Press Reset". Honey had recorded the importance of 2020 in Nashville in January 2020 with "2020 Vision". This was followed by a call-to-action song in "Can't Press Reset" so it made sense to release them together. "Can't Press Reset" made it to #5 in the Canadian Indie Country Countdown. In January 2021 with more lockdowns on the horizon and the world missing their families, Honey released another single "I'm Coming Home" which also reached #5 on the Canadian Indie Country Countdown along with international radio airplay. All these songs form part of her upcoming full-length album which will include 3 additional songs to end this collection of pandemic inspired songs with hope for the future.

Honey's music continues to receive critical acclaim and sees airplay on CBC, Radio-Canada, BBC, AM800, CTV, SiriusXM, Folk Roots Radio, and more across Canada, the US, UK, Germany, Australia, and the Netherlands. With over 20k+ fans from all corners of the world, she performs on-line with her series "Honey In Your Coffee" and has been streaming almost every live venue performance for over 4 years.

Along the way, the down-to-earth artist has displayed extraordinary dedication to her craft. As a graduate of the Berklee College of Music Professional Singer-Songwriter Certificate Program', Honey regularly makes the nine-hour drive from Ontario, Canada, to song-writing retreats in Nashville, where she has been mentored by icons like Beth Nielsen Chapman ("This Kiss"), Mike Reid ("I Can't Make You Love Me"), Grammy-nominated songwriter and author Mary Gauthier ("Rifles and Rosary Beads"), Verlon Thompson (Boats to Build), Gretchen Peters (Independence Day) and Jonatha Brooke (Put the Gun Down). She is a member of the Songwriter's Association of Canada (SAC), Nashville Songwriter's Association International, Canadian Country Music Association, Americana Music Association, and coordinates the SAC's Leamington & Windsor Regional Writer's Group, mentoring other songwriters. Honey produces and co-directs high quality music videos as extensions of each song. As Honey explains "When I write a song, I imagine the movie that is playing for these 3 and half minutes and eventually it becomes its own movie in a video".

Honey has showcased at the Texas Songwriters Symposium four years in a row, NSAI Tin Pan North Festival, Hugh's Room, the WinterFolk Blues and Roots Festival in Toronto, the Kingsville Folk Music Festival, and the Folk Music Ontario conference. Her music and songwriting have not only taken her through Canada and the U.S but to the U.K., Switzerland, and Italy.

Honey continues to write and co-write with other artists, aiming to have her music recorded by fellow performers and licensed for TV. "But really, I just want to keep going, writing better songs. I'm finally a songwriter and I know I'll do this the rest of my life."

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