

# HOW TO WRITE AND SING YOUR OWN SONG

A guide to  
SONGWRITING AND VOCALS  
for DIY music artists



**DINGLE HEYWOOD**

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A guide to songwriting and vocals for DIY music  
artists

Part 2: Free My Music Series

By  
Dingle Heywood

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*'Every decision that I make still shapes my destiny*

*Will today be the day things change; maybe, I'll finally live my  
dreams'*

– Miss Tun Pickney

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# Don't Let Doubt Limit Your options

This guide is Part 2 in the Free My Music Series, which sets out to encourage everyone to free those songs within you waiting to spread their message to the world.

The focus is on songwriting and singing. I have put these topics together as a result of my own experiences as a DIY music artist. They require different skill sets but I found both have an impact on each other. Constantly we make decisions based on how we perceive our skills as a singer or songwriter.

For that reason, I wanted to offer a guide where you feel you have the option to improve your skills in both areas. From my experience, I found that this helped with confidence, motivation and self-expression.

Songwriting and singing allow expression of the inner self and many guides turn these activities into processes that must be followed if anything meaningful is to be created.

Now of course, like any art form, there are many techniques that may aid and improve your songwriting and singing and help take them to a certain level. But that does not mean that not reaching the levels of, for example, Simon & Garfunkel or Pavarotti renders any attempt at these art forms pointless.

There really are no hard and fast rules for songwriting and singing but, there are plenty of choices to be made. There are also plenty of

myths that only serve to seed doubt in prospective writers and singers. I can honestly say don't let them put you off.

There is so much to be gained from songwriting and singing both personally and for others who connect with you and your creations. This is the point, your song or music wouldn't exist if you hadn't created it, and once you release it into the world it will have an impact. How big or small depends on many things, but you can never tell how the power of music – your music – can affect the well-being of even just one person.

So, before you limit your creative input to your song due to doubt, give yourself a chance to explore what you are capable of contributing. You can always choose to collaborate later, and the more you can express your intentions – for example, being able to sing a guide vocal – the easier it is for others to interpret your instructions.

This is a new music business where you are an artist and an entrepreneur. The leaner your operation is to start with, the fewer the outgoings you have. So being able to voice those first few singles yourself saves time and money.

Singing and songwriting are about choices. You choose based on your available options. Having some singing skills increases the options available and this can feed into the choices you make when writing your songs.

If you were writing a song for a particular singer, you would take into account their style, their favourite key, their image. These are all