

SHORT BIO

Danielle Gasparro is a Brooklyn-based wordsmith, songsmith, and teaching artist. She holds an MFA in Poetry from New England College and a BA in Creative Writing with honors from Florida State University. Having dedicated nearly two decades to performing, recording, and building an avid national and UK following as a performing songwriter, in 2018, Gasparro shifted her creative life & lens to her work as a literary artist. Her poetry and essays have been published in *The Daily Palette*, *Chronogram*, *Shift: A Journal of Literary Oddities*, *The Red Wheelbarrow* and elsewhere, and she is currently developing a hybrid memoir that fuses poetry, nonfiction, and photography. A passionate educator, Gasparro has guest presented at several high schools, community colleges, and universities nationally, including a spring 2022 lecture with Brandeis University, and regularly presents poetry talks and workshops in partnership with public libraries and arts organizations throughout NYC and the Hudson Valley, including a weekly drop-in class with Brooklyn Poets. A regional tour of her popular poetry-demystifying workshop is slated to launch in the spring of 2023, for which Gasparro will co-present the program with public libraries throughout the Northeast. On inspired occasion, Gasparro still performs her music live in intimate listening spaces, as artfully curated with her poetry into a dynamic concert experience, "An Evening of Voice & Verse."

LONG BIO

Danielle Gasparro is a Brooklyn-based wordsmith, songsmith, and teaching artist. She holds an MFA in Poetry from New England College and a BA in Creative Writing with honors from Florida State University. For nearly twenty years, Gasparro forged a purposeful path as an independent performing songwriter, along the way building an extensive body of musical work, an avid national and UK following, and critical acclaim as a "deeply soulful artist with a gift for defying genre" (MP3 Weekly) who also has a gift for paying homage to such high priestesses of song as Joni Mitchell, Carole King, and Nina Simone. Passionate about performing in intimate spaces as a means to foster human connection, from 2000-2010, Gasparro shared her music with a devoted fan base in some of New York City's most revered listening rooms, including Rockwood Music Hall, The Bitter End, Caffe Vivaldi, and The Living Room. Guided by her north-star belief in music as a force of unifying greatness, Gasparro made private house concerts as her "venue" of choice across several national and UK touring initiatives, transforming her life on the road into a charitable venture, as a portion of all concert proceeds were donated to organizations providing shelter and hope to America's homeless citizens. Additional music career highlights include: guest appearances on several NPR affiliate stations; three full-length studio albums; participation in two exclusive songwriting retreats hosted by renowned UK singer-songwriter and Squeeze co-founder Chris Difford; an EP studio collaboration with Grammy Award-winning producer Jay Newland (Etta James, Norah Jones, Esperanza Spaulding); and her trio-role as creator, producer, and host of the beloved live artist interview and performance series, "Second Sundays at Rockwood Music Hall," which ran monthly from January

2008-April 2009, offering audiences a refreshingly candid, up-close look into the lives of emerging and established independent singer-songwriters.

Confident that her musical roots will organically sprout future projects, Gasparro views the completion of her MFA in Poetry in 2021 as a critical trailmarker along her artistic path, as it signified a major shift in artistic focus to her work as a literary artist. Her poetry and essays have been published in *The Daily Palette*, *Chronogram*, *Shift: A Journal of Literary Oddities*, *The Red Wheelbarrow* and elsewhere, and she is currently developing a hybrid memoir that fuses poetry, nonfiction, and photography. A passionate educator and self-proclaimed "un-caped crusader of verse," Gasparro partners with public libraries and arts organizations throughout NYC and the Hudson River Valley to present vibrant, eye-opening programs aimed at expanding poetry's readership, including a live weekly drop-in class with Brooklyn Poets. A regional tour of her popular "Demystifying Poetry" class is slated to launch in the spring of 2023, for which she will co-present the program with public libraries throughout the Northeast.

On inspired occasion, Gasparro still performs her music live in intimate listening spaces, as artfully curated with her poetry into a dynamic concert experience, "An Evening of Voice & Verse."