

SHORT BIO

Danielle Gasparro is a New York City- and Hudson River Valley-based wordsmith, songsmith, shutterbug, 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, touring and developing an avid national and UK audience as an independent singer-songwriter, in 2018, Gasparro shifted her creative life and lens to her work as a literary artist. A published poet and passionate educator, Gasparro regularly presents a wide variety of poetry workshops, courses, and talks in partnership with public libraries, arts organizations, and continuing education programs. Her love of teaching extends to her work as a private writing mentor and a substitute English teacher within public and private high schools throughout NYC and the Hudson Valley. Gasparro is currently developing a hybrid memoir that fuses poetry, nonfiction, and photography. Learn more and sample her artistic voice & visions at: daniellegasparro.com

LONGER BIO

Danielle Gasparro is a New York City- and Hudson River Valley-based wordsmith, songsmith, shutterbug, 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 meaningful path and avid national and UK audience as an independent performing songwriter, along the way building an extensive body of musical work and critical praise as a "deeply soulful artist with a gift for defying genre" (MP3 Weekly), whose voice and songwriting also paid powerful homage to such high priestesses of piano-driven song as Joni Mitchell, Carole King, and Nina Simone. Passionate about performing in intimate spaces as a means to foster human connection through song, from 2000-2010, Gasparro shared her music with a devoted fan base in some of New York City's most revered listening rooms, such as Rockwood Music Hall, The Bitter End, Caffè Vivaldi, and The Living Room. Guided by her belief that music is a force of uplifting and unifying greatness, Gasparro made private house concerts her "venue" of choice across several touring initiatives, which elevated her life on the road into a charitable venture as a portion of all concert proceeds were donated to local organizations providing shelter and hope to America's homeless citizens. Additional music career highlights include: radio play and guest appearances on several NPR affiliate stations; three full-length studio albums; participation in two exclusive songwriting retreats hosted by renowned UK singer-songwriter Chris Difford (co-founder of Squeeze); 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 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. On inspired occasion, Gasparro still performs her music live in intimate listening spaces, at times curated with her poetry into a dynamic concert experience, "An Evening of Voice & Verse."

Confident that her deep musical roots will sprout future projects in due time, the completion of Gasparro's MFA in Poetry in 2021 signified an integral shift in artistic focus to her work and path as a literary artist. Her writing has been published in *The Red Wheelbarrow*, *Poet of the Week* (with Brooklyn Poets), *Shift: A Journal of Literary Oddities*, *Chronogram*, *The Daily Palette*, *The Kudzu Review*, and elsewhere. An impassioned educator and self-proclaimed "uncaped crusader of verse," Gasparro regularly presents a wide variety of poetry writing and reading classes, workshops, and talks in partnership with public libraries, arts organizations, and continuing education programs. Her love of teaching extends to her work as a private writing mentor and a substitute English teacher within public and private high schools throughout NYC and the Hudson Valley. Gasparro is currently developing a hybrid memoir that fuses poetry, nonfiction, and photography.

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