

Songwriting Workshop

There are no rules.

Music is subjective = No songwriter is better than another.

You can think your song is awful while a million people could love it.

Everyone is capable of writing something that connects.

Financial gain and songwriting quality aren't mutually exclusive.

There are no rules.

Songwriting trends that have connected in the past.

Theme = Musical or lyrical or both. Songs tend to have one main theme, part or hook that everything else in the song only serves to get back to. What is the purpose of this song? Make sure all parts of the song serves to that purpose.

Lyrical Theme - One word or phrase that sparks every other idea in the song... Word play?

Verse Chorus Verse Chorus? Punchline?

Opposites and underplay.

Many songs use opposites for a sense of drama or grandeur. Fire and rain etc. Similarly, a happy song might elude to sadness to accentuate the joy and vice versa. "I once was lost now I'm found." "I can see clearly now the rain is gone."

Underplaying is frequently used because people love an underdog and no-one wants a boaster or a whiner. "I hope you don't mind that I put down in words how wonderful life is while you're in the world."

Vocal timing and melodic range. Change it up for different parts of the song. Dynamics.

Song timing.

The dreaded bridge.

Pay attention to how you write songs best.

Experience. Experience. Experience. Attempt as many parts of the process as possible from listening to writing to performing to producing. They can all only help.

LISTEN! What makes your favorite songs your favorite songs. Do that. As a practice imagine your 3 current fav songs and imagine what they'd write if they all wrote a single for another favorite artist.

Honesty and vulnerability.

When you hurt, pay attention to how and why. Get outside your comfort zone.

What do you need to hear? What advice should you be told at this point in your life? Give it to yourself in a song. The stuff that is too close to home for you to share is often the most relatable and the most likely to connect.

Healthy practice whether you do it for a career or just use it as a diary. Through the toughest parts of my life when there's been the most pain I've had something to feel good about. It's the best companion.