



Canine Publicity is pleased to announce that Journalist, Executive Producer, and Radio Show Host Free Willy The Beast Forrest text interview / Article with Canadian Country Music Artist Becca Hess

<http://beccahess.com/>

Introduction

1) Two Part Question

a) Hello Becca Hess the first question is can you give the reading audience information about you as to your personal life in growing up in regards to not music but what your interests and hobbies are, education, family etc,

I grew up in Mission, BC living out in the booney's with 2 sisters and 2 brothers. Us girls loved Saturday Night Live, Mad TV and all the comedy sketch shows so we spent a lot of time making videos of things we thought were hilarious. This was long before YouTube days (we had dial up anyways, as long as it didnt rain) so we recorded them on VHS tapes and watched them back with the rest of the family. We grew up close, all 5 of us, and acted like idiots, laughing constantly. I think it branded each of us kids with our family name since that seems to be the norm for us.



Saturday Night Live



I was good in school, not the coolest thing to do and spent most days working. I worked at A&W in Agassiz for 3 years before moving on to a bunch of odd jobs that eventually led me to Fort McMurray AB, where I spent a decade living, working and cutting my teeth as a musician.

b) Since I have read your bio, could you please tell the audience about growing up in a musical family?

My dad Kenny has been a touring singer songwriter for my entire life. He was signed to Curb Records when I was a kid and was a staff writer for the legendary Harl and Howard. He lived in Nashville for a long time, coming back and forth constantly to see us kids. He actually shared an apartment in Nashville with Big Kenny (Big & Rich) which is always one of my favorite stories to hear. I have lots of musician friends, we play songs we are working on for each other, go to each other's shows, just champion each other's dreams, and that's exactly what they were doing back then.



Kenny Hess

So its cool to live it out in a new generation, not knowing who out of us is going to make it, if anybody! I love hearing about what he was doing when he was my age, it puts things in perspective for me and its an incredible bond to share with my old man.

We were always a part of everything he did. We started out selling CDs (actually Tapes at first) with him on the road, learning to set up gear, how to wrap cables and change out the gels in his stage lights. Child labor is cheap and its totally legal if it's your own kids haha. Plus, my sister Kate and I were pretty adorable back then so it was a hard to say no when we asked if you wanted to buy 2 CDs instead of 1. All jokes aside, watching his work ethic and drive definitely made me the person and performer I am today.



2) Now your father is Kenny Hess, who is BCCMA Hall of Fame Country Music Artist I would like for you to tell the reading audience how your father influenced you into Country Music .

I have watched my dad perform for as long as I

can remember. I sat in the room with him when he would write songs. I was around when he was booking shows, setting up, travelling to and from. I got to see all sides of the business, since he really British Columbia Country Music Association is a one man show when it comes to the business of Kenny Hess Live.

Sounds harsh, but it was the best advice anyone could give an aspiring artist. It literally meant, forget all the extras, its about the music. The songs, the craft. And that resonated with me into my early 20's when I finally came to him as a musician with my first real song "The Light". I will never forget how proud he was then, and has been ever since. He is definitely my #1 fan.

Since I interviewed artists for a now defunct magazine that was called Vocals Magazine I would like to know what female music artists have influenced you musically and also have influenced you as a person in reflecting back on your life?

I am a huge fan of singer songwriters, since that's ultimately what I am. Females like Allison Krauss, Norah Jones, Adele and Amy Winehouse have been huge influences to me. Each a master of their sound, and each different from each other. I have a pretty eclectic music mix I listen to regularly, and females often take the backseat on everyone's top 10 lists. Its sad but true - most of my "All Time Favourites" are males. Its a tough market for females. These 4 have definitely carved their own path, not taken any shit and haven't wavered from being their true selves without Allison Krauss being stuck in a box. Its that kind of artist that Essential CD fires me up and makes me want to be a better Buy It Now musician.



Now I would like to know how long you have been performing as a professional musician please include any information about playing in clubs before you started releasing your own material?

I started performing with my Dad when I was a little kid. Kate and I sang on his Christmas album, which is hilarious to listen back to for us now. I mean, he sounds great, but I wanted to be Mariah so bad I damn near ruined it with my 5-year old's version of her insane vocal runs haha. I performed at school a bit, in plays or choir, but I really didn't start down this road until I was 20. I got up and sang with friends of mine at an open mic which soon became a weekly performance for me. I built up a repertoire and a fan base playing those shows. You learn to shake your nerves, how to handle a crowd that would rather be watching the game, which jokes land, it's the best way to become comfortable on stage. It's the first thing I recommend to any up and comer. Hit the open mics. Network with other musicians, get inspired and have bad nights. Hell, people are usually drunk anyways so – Mulligan!

Since I was involved in many areas of the music industry and took recording courses at the old Water Street Sound Recording Studio in Vancouver and my instructor was Mr Craig Hutch Hutchinson who is now part of Rupert Neve Designs, LLC designing recording Studio Desk Councils. I am wondering where you have been doing your recordings, who has produced and who has engineered your recordings?

I have been lucky enough to record in quite a few places. My album "Here's To Us" was recorded at the Studio Downe Under here in Abbotsford with Soren Lonnqvist engineering and Tom McKillip producing. After the first single came out, "It Ain't Even Raining", it was picked up by The Nashville Network, TNN now known as Heartland, which grabbed the attention of Mr. Byron Hill.



He and Roger Brown approached me [Canadian Country Music Association](#) at the CCMA's in 2014 and we started writing together

I was lucky enough to demo some songs with Byron, recording them at his house in I have been lucky enough to record in quite a few places. My album "Here's To Us" was recorded at the Studio Downe Under here in Abbotsford with Soren Lonnqvist engineering and Tom McKillip producing. After the first single came out, "It Ain't Even Raining", it was picked up by The Nashville Network, TNN now known as Heartland, which grabbed the attention of Mr. Byron Hill. He and Roger Brown approached me at the CCMA's in 2014 and we started writing together. I was lucky enough to demo some songs with Byron, recording them at his house in

Nashville TN. Working with Byron was such a great experience. It made me up my game, both as a writer and as a professional in the industry. He has an incredible rap sheet with some of the most legendary artists in country music so I made sure I was on my A game with him. I honestly still cant believe that was my life for 2 years. Roger, Byron and I have a few cowrites on the new record, and frankly have written some of my all time favourite originals.



After that I worked with Lenny B (Lenny Bertoldo) also in Nashville. He was the man behind the wheel of my current single "Mountain Child" and one off the new record called "In This Town" Lenny was awesome to work with and adds a real cool element to anything I bring him.

For the upcoming album, I am back on my home turf recording with the McKillip dream team once again. Tom and Carly, his daughter (One More Girl), are the perfect combo of old school and new sound that fits this record perfectly.

For the upcoming album, I am back on my home turf recording with the McKillip dream team The McKillips have been in my life as long as I can remember, Tom and my Dad go way back and have recorded together many times. This time around we recorded at the legendary Armoury Studios in Vancouver with Paul Silveira engineering, which was such an unbelievable experience. I have the rough beds back and honestly I just wanted to bawl. That room is heaven.

6) Now you have opened for some very interesting Country Music Artists or played with them at festivals according to your biography, these artists include Big & Rich, Gretchen Wilson, Travis Twitt, Wynonna, Trooper, Dwight Yoakum and many more. So I would like for you to pick a few of your favorite moments and tell the reading audience as to those moments and describe how you felt playing the same venue as those artists.



[Two For The Show CD Buy It Now](#)



Big & Rich

Greatest Hits CD

Buy It Now!

My most memorable show to date was opening for Big & Rich. It was one of my first big shows and I was playing with a trio at the time. While I was on stage, playing my brand new song "It Ain't Even Raining", the Meet & Greet was happening backstage. Mid way through my set, John Rich comes out to watch me sing, which thank the good Lord I didn't see at the time or I would have panicked haha. He asked Hutch, our head of security and someone I consider a brother to me, to bring me out to the bus when I got off stage. Needless to say I was instantly nervous

When I got back there, he played some music for me and asked me what I wanted to do as a

musician, gave a few words of wisdom. I was intimidated as hell, which does not happen often. Its a moment that shaped me as an artist - lit a fire under me! Its the only time I can recall being speechless. I think back to that every time I head into an interview or on stage.

Now when it comes to festivals on your biography it says that you have played the Rockin River Festival and The Merritt Mountain Music Festivals could you let the audience know about what these two festivals are as this interview will be part of the promotions of you being on Diminished Pitch Entertainment's Yeehaw Show. As the internet is a great way of promotions world wide for any entertainer.



I grew up around the Merritt Mountain Music Festival. Dad played there for 18 years! My first time singing on a big stage was for about 8,000 people with him. Just craziness, I remember saying that must have been 500 people! Dad laughs, uh no Bec probably closer to 8,000. Unreal.



When Rockin' River Music Festival started in Mission BC, I had the opportunity to play a few times on some world class lineups. It has since moved to Merritt BC and takes over the 4 day August long weekend. This year I will be performing on the Saturday night along side Brett Kissel (so talented and so nice, love that guy) and the Band Perry, both high energy

shows that I can't wait to open for

Now since I grew up in Calgary Alberta which is close to the mountains and now live in Trail British Columbia I would like to ask you about your song Mountain Child which has gathered the following nominations at the ACMA awards for "Song of The Year", "Video of The Year" and "Female Artist of The Year" would you like to tell the audience about Mountain Child and how it has affected your life being a Canadian that knows about the Rocky Mountains of Canada?

Mountain Child was one of those songs that was stuck in my head before it ever became a song, if that makes sense. Since moving back to BC last year after being in Fort McMurray for 10 years, I have been living in Barrowtown - a gorgeous little BC gem tucked into the Chilliwack mountainside. I was loving life getting back to my roots, surrounded by animals and the river. Every morning I woke up to the sun on that mountain, went to bed with the stars behind it. Mountain Child came from just that. We filmed the video with that view as a backdrop, a few feet from my house. BC has a ton of hidden gems, its hard not to find your voice here.



[Mountain Child Official Video on Youtube](#)

[Mountain Child United Flowerhorn Video](#)

[Mountain Child A Hike For Mental Health](#)

Now we all know the power of the internet and social media which tends to segregate certain things but lets just say there are ways of doing cross promotions to get your music heard in new markets would you give the rights for those people to promote you like a radio station if it is part of a radio stations promotion for a certain event not only to promote your music but to promote their event where people may not see their promotion and your following may not see yours would you see the benefits in doing such a cross promotion?

Absolutely, we can talk further about that and make plans case by case!

In closing Becca just in case I have missed anything that you would like to promote or say to the reading audience of this text interview / article please do not hesitate to do so and thank you for allowing me a chance to interview you ..

Just want to thank you for supporting my music and Mountain Child! The new album will release this summer and will be performed live at the Rockin' River Music Fest in Merritt for the first time! I cannot wait for everyone to hear this record.

If it is the last record I ever get to make, I will die happy.

Thanks Willy The Beast Forrest



On Wednesday April 5th 2017 at 3 PM EST, 2 PM CST, 1 PM MST, 12 HIGH NOON PST Canadian Country Singer Song writer Becca Hess will be on Diminished Pitch Network The **Yeehaw Show.**

With her new single Mountain Child and has special promotions of supporting the upcoming United Flowerhorn Association's Ufa Singapore King of Asia Flowerhorn Competition and that song also is involved with The Slow and Steady Hikers and A Hike for Mental Health.

<http://www.blogtalkradio.com/diminishedpitchnetwork/2017/04/05/yeehaw-show--canadiancountry-music-artist--becca-hess>