



Angela Motter Bio 2006 In My Own Words

I've been playing guitar and writing songs since age 10. My guitar has been my most constant companion. I've been gigging since my freshman year in High School.

I have played some great gigs in my favorite city, New York. **The Bitter End, The Living Room, The Postcrypt, Meow Mix.** I toured with **Queerstock** for five years thanks to the tireless, many-hatted **Doria Roberts.** We played **Boston, Chicago, New York, Philly,** etc., etc. I met some great musicians who I am still in touch with today, especially **Girlyman,** the trio that will give you chills with their stellar songwriting and huge 3 part harmony. I've also played countless clubs and many College gigs around the country, sometimes including speaking on gender issues.

My musical mentors include my first guitar teacher, **Tom Grogan,** who began teaching me when I was 10. Also **John Sutherland,** my professor at **Georgia State University** where I studied and received a degree in **Classical Guitar Performance.** John was once a student of **Segovia** and instilled in me the need to listen to and follow my innate musicality. Other mentors include Atlanta musician **Dede Vogt,** who listened to my first songs when I was 18 years old and encouraged me both by her example on stage and with her kindness and love. I heard Dede's latest material at **Eddie's Attic** recently and the songs knocked me out with their stunning poetic simplicity, authenticity, and lack of over sentimentality. She still gives me chills. My **Dad** exposed me at a very early age to jazz greats such as **Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Stan Getz and Chet Baker.** My **Mom** bought **Carole King's Tapestry** and assured me at age 10 that I, too, would be able to write and perform my own songs someday.

Career highlights: Opening for **B. B. King** with my kickass band which at the time included drummer **Jeff Sipe** and guitar genius **Jimmy Herring.** Playing the **GLAMAS in New York.** Meeting **Ani DiFranco,** twice, both times being struck by her huge smile and open heart. Meeting **John Cameron and Miriam Shor** backstage at the **GLAMAS.** Playing the huge, truly multi cultural festival **Under the Volcano** in **Vancouver.** Having my name in **Rolling Stone,** twice. Singing **Makin' Love** with **Micah Barnes** at gig at Duke University. Singing with vocal virtuoso **Angie Aparo** at the **Bluebird in Nashville.** The **Queerstock Tours.** Opening for **Indigo Girls** at **Atlanta Pride,** and having the **YouthPride** kids go crazy while I was playing. Gigging with **Girlyman.** Winning a **GLAMA** for **My Mama Told Me.** Recording **Pleasure and Pain** with my musical soulmate, the late **Ricky Keller.** The critical acclaim and positive fan response I received when I released **Pleasure and Pain.** Having my friend, incredible songwriter and keyboard virtuoso **Fonda Feingold** (another mentor) fly down from NY to play my CD release party. Meeting one of my favorite performing songwriters and guitarists, **Shawn Colvin,** and having her take the time to lovingly reassure me that I would heal from the vocal node I had at the time. Shawn Colvin's voice is one of my favorites in the performing songwriter business. Sitting in with friends like **Sue Wilkinson, Kelly Hogan, Butterfly Stitch, Michelle Malone and Claire Campbell,** anytime. Harmonizing with my students on songs by great artists of their choosing that I might not otherwise be exposed to. Having young guitarist and songwriter **John Mayer** sit in with me at **Eddie's Attic.** Playing with my incredible bass player, **Jerry Peek** and legendary drummer **Johnny Rabb** at a gig opening for **Butterfly Stitch.** Leading Guitar Master classes where I get hear my students perform their own songs in front of guests such as **Amy Ray, Emily Saliers, and Sonia Leigh.** Makes me so proud. Playing the role of **Yitzhak** for 13 weeks in **Hedwig and the Angry Inch** (a dream of mine since I saw the show off Broadway) at **Actor's Express** and working with incredible actors and musicians and director **Randee Trabitz.** Recording my latest single, **Makin' Love,** at **Tree Sound.** Promise, I'll release it soon.

I am ready to record a third CD and plan to begin fundraising. I am going to release a CD single of **Makin' Love** along with other new tracks to start the ball rolling. **Makin' Love** sounds simply amazing. Excellent musicians, excellent producers, and a **Doria Roberts** cameo that will knock your socks off.

I am currently in negotiation for a **publishing deal.** I've been up and down the roller coaster a few times and it's always interesting. But if anyone can make it happen these folks can, so I'll send up my prayers for a good outcome.

I am a **competitive bodybuilder.** I have wanted to enter a bodybuilding competition since I was 18 years old and I never did it, and I'll tell you why. It wasn't the workouts I was afraid of, it was the diet! So after training alone for all those years, I found a trainer. Well really, he found me. So to the incomparable **Dean Felder,** I made the commitment. Who knew? So now it's 5 to 6 meals a day, 4 protein shakes a day, and a 2 hour workout, sometimes 7 days a week. My first competition was April 22 2006, where I took second place. I will be competing again in Georgia July 8, 2006 and the **Gay Games** in **Chicago** in July 2006, gigging while I am there.



Angela Motter Bio 2006 In My Own Words

I am well versed in many styles of music, and still enjoy playing my **Classical Guitar**. I have a deep love for **Brazilian music** and currently have a student that sings in Portuguese, so we'll be working on some Samba and Bossa Nova, revisiting some of my favorite chords and melodies. **Tom Jobim** is one of my favorite composers. Classic, beautiful, sensual stuff.

I feel I am a success because I know my music has touched people in a very real way. I received an email once from someone who was literally going to commit suicide when they heard my song **isitaboyisitagirl** on an LGBT radio show. I'm not sure of the gender identification of the person, so I'll just say "she." She said the song showed her that there were people out there who felt differently gendered compared to most of the population and that she wasn't alone, and that the song literally saved her life. If I never get another bit of fan mail I don't care. I was glad my music was of service and comfort to someone who needed to know there was a place for them, many others like her, that she belonged, that there are many ways of being yourself in this world.

This career path has humbled me, beat me down, lifted me up, helped me conquer my fears, and inspired me to continue to make connections with my fellow beings that inhabit this wonderful, heartbreaking, bountiful and beautiful gift of a planet.

BIGLOVE,
Angela.