

MAGESONGS SCHOOL OF SONGWRITING

Why would you choose to do this course?

“There is no school for songwriters except the school of hard knocks — and that school is filled with lies, myths, half-truths, and misinformation. I hear it every day. Some of these myths have been around for over 50 years. Talented, you may well be. Educated about your chosen career — doubtful.”
Dude McLean (Producer & Music Publisher: Ray Charles, Barry Manilow, Cher, Air Supply, Duke Ellington, ABBA, Lionel Richie, Johnny Mathis, Johnny Cash, Whitney Houston...)

At **Magesongs School of Songwriting**, we believe songwriters deserve more than trial and error. You deserve real tools, real strategies, and real understanding of how the music industry works — and how to write songs that meet professional, industry-level expectations.

We teach the same methods, tools, and principles used by many successful songwriters — lessons drawn directly from the masters. You’ll discover the differences between artists who write their own material (e.g. Bob Dylan, John Lennon) and professional songwriters who write for others (e.g. Diane Warren, Burt Bacharach, David Foster, Anders Bagge, Andreas Carlsson).

What Makes This Course Different?

This isn’t *just* another songwriting course. It’s been carefully developed to help beginners and developing writers:

- ✔ Write to market standards
- ✔ Understand the professional songwriting business
- ✔ Compete in one of the toughest creative industries

You’ll learn how the songwriter’s market works — and the strategies that have taken top writers to global success. You’ll also understand why songs that sound “good” may still fall short of what major artists, music publishers and A&R (Artists & Repertoire executives) expect.

We’ll show you how record labels assess songs for marketability and artist suitability. You’ll learn to take a song from raw concept to a polished, industry-ready product.

Who Is It For?

Whether you dream of writing songs for major artists, film directors, sync placements, for yourself if you are a performer, or other markets (i.e the Christian market) — this course will prepare you. If you’re not a performer, you’ll learn how to write for performers who don’t write their own songs.

Through detailed analysis of hit songs, you’ll study:

- Song structures, forms, and themes
- Lyrical styles, rhyme techniques, assonance, and sound patterns
- Crafting catchy melodies, hooks, and memorable lines
- The art of creating impactful, marketable demos
- Business fundamentals: Publishing, contracts, copyright, collaboration, and more

You’ll also be introduced to industry-standard songwriting software used by top professionals — complete with a vast database of over 11,000 rhymes, thesaurus tools, chord charting, spell-check, song file management, and more.

After Completing the Course

- ✔ Have a professionally recorded, collaborative song*
- ✔ Automatically become a published writer via collaboration with Magesongs*
- ✔ Register songs with the U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress
- ✔ Join a Performing Rights Organization (PRO) — such as ASCAP, BMI, SESAC (USA) or APRA (Australia)
- ✔ Continue honing your skills through ongoing workshops (in-person or online)
- ✔ Enter international songwriting competitions to test your potential

Many of our students have gone on to win awards, secure publishing deals, and sign with record labels.

*Additional cost may apply for studio production. Completion of all assignments and submission of a marketable song is required.

Prerequisites

You don’t need to be a musician with music theory skills, instrumentalist, or performing artist to learn how to write successful, hit potential songs — although those skills can be an advantage. Your most important prerequisites are a **genuine desire to learn** and a **commitment to your development** as a songwriter.

Networking & Collaboration Opportunities

As part of your ongoing growth, you’ll have the opportunity to join our **Songwriters Workshop** and participate in **Songwriters Camps** (when available), where you can collaborate with other writers and showcase new material after completing the course.

These workshops are a vital resource for any songwriter serious about success. Many developing writers mistakenly believe that if a song sounds “good enough” to them personally, it must be ready for the world. But avoiding feedback is a mindset reserved for hobbyists — not for songwriters who want their work performed by professional artists or to stand out as a performing songwriter themselves.

That’s why **Magesongs** fosters a space for collaboration, feedback, and showcasing new songs — giving you every chance to refine your craft and meet industry expectations.

ONLINE COURSE AGENDA for 2025/26

[SS]: Songwriting Studies [BS]: Business Studies

Week 1: Hit Song Forms [SS]

- Understanding the song structures used by hit songwriters.

Week 2: The Starting Point [SS]

- Where do ideas, titles and hooks come from.

Week 3: Effective Lyrics Writing (Part 1) [SS]

- Using emotion, storytelling and imagery to elevate your lyrics.

Week 4: Songwriting as a Business -Royalties. . . [BS]

- Discover the different income streams available to songwriters.

Week 5: Objet Writing / Songwriting Software

- Explore object writing exercises, industry songwriting tools, Song Review.

Week 6: Effective Lyrics Writing (Part 2) [SS]

- Learning the tools & techniques that make lyrics unique & memorable.

Week 7: The Songwriter & His Music Publisher [BS]

- Understand how to work with music publishers & the role they play.

Week 8: Differentiating between Popular and Alternate Markets [SS]

- Learn how to approach different markets/genres with the right strategies.

Week 9: What is a Publishing Agreement [BS]

- Learn how to read, analyze, and navigate music publishing contracts.

Week 10: Using Metaphors in Songwriting & Assignments Review.

- Explore how metaphors enhance your writing / Reviewing your progress.

Week 11 How to Compose Catchy Tunes [SS]

- Techniques for writing memorable, commercial & emotionally engaging melodies.

Week 12: Networking & Copyright Essentials [BS]

- Benefits of networking, collaborating with other writers & Protecting your songs

Week 13: Melody Composing Techniques [SS]

- Dive into effective methods for writing melodies that connect with listeners.

Week 14 Collaboration Workshop, Receive Feedback / Strengthen Your Song.

Week 15: Studio Demo Production & Budget [SS]

- Oversee your song from concept to finished demo, incl. planning & budgeting.

Week 16: The Songwriter a Producer.[SS]

- Introduction to the production process: understanding studio equipment, music software, preparing midi files & taking creative control.

Week 17: Review Your Song Progress & Receive Constructive Feedback.

Week 18: How to Pitch Your Songs [BS]

- Learn how to target the right artist, producer, or market with your songs

Week 19: Song Presentation [BS]

- Master skills needed to present your songs effectively to industry professionals.

Week 20: Achieving the Songwriter's Dream [BS]

- Key to succeeding as a professional songwriter in a competitive industry.
- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: - Attendance at all sessions is required to successfully complete the course. -Extra sessions may be provided for students needing additional time to complete their songs. - Course structure is subject to adjustment to best suit students of varying experience levels.

Teacher's Profile

Jacques M. Gentil is an award-winning songwriter and founder of **Magesongs School of Songwriting** (established 2002). He is the son of the composer of Mauritius' national anthem, "Motherland."

Jacques credits includes producing, recording, performing, publishing, co-writing, teaching, working with many artists, songwriters and producers in one form or another, including co-writing with Grammy award winner Diane Warren and collaborating with Joey Kibble (from 10 times Grammy award winner group Take 6), Joe Dolce, Anita Hazell/Tracy Star (Neil Diamond, Stephanie Mills), The Advent Brass Band, Ray Doggett (ESU Records, Nashville; Kenny Rogers), Antonio Valdetaro, Carlos Flores (Brazil), Australian Teen Idol judging panel 2007, Global Battle of the Band judging panel (2009, 2010) and Melbourne Songwriters Competition judging panel (2010). He has also worked under McGann Music Publishing (Las Vegas) for specific projects.

Visiting major U.S. music cities, Nashville, New York and Los Angeles opened doors of opportunities to the Music Industry. As a result Jacques founded Magesongs Publishing which has created liaisons with major labels A&R from Columbia Records, Epic Records, J Records amongst others.

Credentials

-Jacques has won multiple Songwriter's awards:

Winner of ASA Australian Songwriter of the Year Award (2013)
Winner of 41th National Songwriting Awards—Spiritual (2021)
Winner of 39th National Songwriting Awards—Spiritual (2019)
Winner of 38th National Songwriting Awards—Spiritual (2018)
Winner of UK Songwriting Contest- Christian/Faith (2017)
Winner of 37th National Songwriting Awards—Spiritual (2017)
Winner of 36th National Songwriting Awards—Spiritual (2016)
Winner of 33rd National Songwriting Awards—Spiritual (2013)
Winner of 33rd National Songwriting Awards—Ballad* (2013)
Winner of 32nd National Songwriting Awards—Ballad* (2012)
Winner of Songsalve Australia—Instrumental (2012)*

* Co-written with students Rick Hart (ASA 2012), and Karen Guymer (Songsalve 2012 & ASA 2013).

-Performances: The Skydome (Rogers Centre) - Toronto, Canada 2000 & USA. U.S. 'Contrast' Tour 2001, including radios & appearance on Purely Music (SAFE TV, Arkansas) USA. South Pacific tour in 1992 including appearing on Havanna TV show (RFO) New Caledonia.

-Academic Qualifications:

Bachelor of Arts — Deakin University (Victoria, Australia)

Cert. IV in Small Business Management — RMIT University (Victoria, Australia), part of the Australian Government NEIS program.

"Songwriters are a rare breed of humans who exhibit incredible patience, spirit, energy, and faith. What they bring to us enriches our lives in every corner of the world. It is a noble and worthy profession. On top of any advice I might give comes my thanks to all songwriters for the gifts they give to each and every one of us."

Brendan Okrent (Ex-Senior Director of Repertory, ASCAP)

Contacts

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Victoria, 3976, Australia.

Online Course Fee

20 weekly sessions online via Zoom. All classes must be attended, all assignments completed with 1 song completed at the end of the course.

3 payment options are available. Upfront payment gets you a \$100 discount. See payment details on our website under Payments and Course Options.

Tax incentive: This course being geared towards creating professional songwriters is tax deductible. It will be explained in class. Speak to your accountant as to how tax deduction works.

Visit www.matesongs.com for full information and for bookings details.

Testimonials From Past Students

"This course has been fantastic for me, as a performer and songwriter. I have learnt so much about not only successful song structures, but also the music industry itself. Highly recommended to all."

Karen Guymer, Bentleigh East, Vic. (APRA/ASA Australian Songwriter of the Year 2015) (Rudy Brandsma Award Winner 2010, ASA)

"The Magesongs Songwriting course is quite unique and a must for upcoming songwriters who want to make their mark in the music industry. The course not only focuses on Songwriting aspects but also takes you through essential elements of the music industry such as marketing, publishing, record labels, analysis of success stories, royalty, demo submission techniques and provides clarity on where you stand as a songwriter and what you want to achieve. Personally, I thoroughly enjoyed the course and also made some wonderful contacts along the way which opened up opportunities for further collaboration and sharing of creative ideas. Jacques is a wonderful mentor and I enjoyed his personal and informal approach of teaching."

Anirban Banerjee— Canberra ACT - (APRA/ASA Australian Songwriter of the Year 2018) Anirban has signed with A&R Dept. Distribution label.

"Thank You so much for a wonderful course. I must admit when I signed up for the course I wasn't sure what to expect but it exceeded all my expectations. A big thumbs up to the material covered, but also to yourself for the way you made it all so interesting and also showed great faith and belief in myself and my songwriting. The course has really re-kindled my love of writing and I thank you for this too. I really respect what you have to say as I know it is intended to get me to push myself to be the best I can at my craft. Once again, a truly great course and I will sing your praises loudly."

Rick Hart. Rowville, Vic. (APRA/ASA Australian Songwriter Of The Year 2014 Award Winner). Rick has signed with Kobalt Publishing & Checked Label Services.

More testimonials from our latest students online.
www.matesongs.com

Many student's published songs can be heard on our website.

Magesongs
SCHOOL OF SONGWRITING

Become a Prolific Songwriter

**You also can Learn
All the Tools & Techniques
that's made Songwriters Hitmakers.**

*...for the world to see my love for you on
...that some day when I die it will be
...to see my love my arms so open
...ly go such a long way for you oh my
...you that it's true oh yeah so true
...we can it with her to let you*