

**Melissa Ferrick** (she/her)  
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## **EDUCATION**

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**Harvard University Graduate School of Education; Cambridge, MA** 2019

- Ed. M., Specialized Studies & Arts in Education

**Berklee College of Music; Boston, MA** 1990

- Alumni, Songwriting, Trumpet

### **Certificates:**

- Avid: Pro Tools 2020
- Northwestern University: Digital Social Marketing 2016

## **HIGHER EDUCATION – TEACHING & ADMINISTRATION**

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**Northeastern University: Boston, MA** 2019 - present

*Professor of the Practice*

*Coordinator: Songwriting Minor*

### **Courses Taught**

- Introduction to the Music Industry
- Advanced Songwriting
- Introduction to Songwriting
- The Independent Artist: Creation, Commerce, and Wellbeing
- Nonprofit Arts Administration
- Creative Entrepreneurship
- Applied Inquiry in Creative Practice (MS Creative Practice Leadership)
- Record Industry
- Music in Everyday Life (asynchronous)

### **Coordinator: Songwriting Minor**

- Oversee requirements
- Propose and write new courses
- Mentor students
- Advise faculty

### **Recognition**

- Excellence in Teaching: College of Arts Media and Design, Nominee 2021 - 2024
- Research Leadership Development Initiative (ReDI): A leadership program for professors who show promise for leadership in a broader scale. ReDI intentionally prepares faculty members to lead across differences in working styles, approaches, backgrounds, and disciplines. Aimed at developing participants' self-awareness as a leader in addition to specific leadership capabilities.

### **Academic and Curricular Development**

- Wrote and Implemented:
  - Models of Applied Inquiry in Creative Practice (Graduate Level).
  - The Independent Artist: Creation, Commerce, and Wellbeing
  - Demo Production for Songwriters
  - Record Industry
  - Asynchronous core class, Introduction to the Music Industry
- Revised:
  - Creative Entrepreneurship Capstone, Introduction to Music Industry, Introduction to and Advanced Songwriting, Nonprofit Arts Administration

- Contributor:
  - Decolonizing the music department's curriculum
- Educator Spotlight:
  - Center for Advanced Teaching and Learning; Successful Pivots to Remote Learning

Boards, Committees, and Development

- Dean's Advisory Board: Social and Racial Justice; Advise the Dean on policies, initiatives, and procedures to enhance and recommend best practices for hiring and retaining BIPOC faculty and staff, liaise with departments, staff, and students about implementing anti-racist pedagogies, encourage synergy and consistency across the college, recommend initiatives to mitigate DIEB issues
  - Academic Affairs Curriculum Committee: Review College-wide courses for approval
  - Music Curriculum Committee: Department-wide program and course review
  - Admissions Committee Member: Review portfolios. Recommend entry and scholarships.
  - Faculty representative for LGBTQI+ representation
  - Faculty Mentor for Women in Music at Northeastern
  - Mental Health Awareness for Artists and their Allies

**Mechanical Licensing Collective (MLC)**

**2022 – present**

*Educator Ambassador*

Certified to teach the fundamentals of the MLC's services.

**Harvard University; Cambridge, MA**

**2019 - 2023**

*Teaching Assistant*

- Extension School; Cambridge, MA  
Dr. Shelley Carson: Psychopathology of Creativity **2019 - 2021**
- Graduate School of Education  
Dr. Eileen McGowan: Integrating Knowledge into Practice

**Berklee College of Music; Boston, MA**

**2010 - 2019**

*Associate Professor*

Courses Taught

- Music Business for Songwriters
- Performance Workshop
- DIY Entrepreneurship
- Lyric Writing 1 & 2
- Essentials of Songwriting
- Mentor: private sessions - twelve to twenty students per academic year

Academic and Curricular Development

- Co-led the redesign of three core classes.
- Wrote and implemented the curriculum for the songwriting department's summer program.
- Developed a capstone entrepreneurial curriculum producing over 12 projects being launched yearly.
- Ideated and launched "Save the Rave!" a community-building event promoting mental health awareness.
- Co-developed faculty training for gender inclusiveness for Berklee Teachers on Teaching (BTOT)

Policy and Strategic Planning.

- Faculty representative in the redesign of a college-wide equity policy.
- Created retention plans to convert summer attendees to full-time graduating students.
- Engaged the college community in conversations about diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB)

Speaking Engagements

- Women's Welcome Reception for entering students
- Know your Rights: Copyright and the implications of the M.M.A.
- Exploring Music Industry Ethics
- LGBTQI+ Graduation Ceremony
- Creating Harmony; Freedom from Addiction

**Summer Programs**

***Artistic Director: Performing Songwriter division***

- Administered all aspects of the Performing Songwriter five-week summer program.
- Increased attendance by over 100% over eight years
- Led auditions and produced showcases
- Taught classes on creative entrepreneurship

**Boston University; Boston, MA** **2017**

***Guest Lecturer***

- Creative Entrepreneurship

**Penn State; Abington, PA** **2013**

***Guest Lecturer***

- LGBTQI+ Advocacy and Music Entrepreneurship

**MUSIC INDUSTRY**

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**Paladin Artists; New York, NY** **October 2024 - present**

***Agent***

- Responsible Agent for: Antonia Bennett, Elizabeth and the Catapult, Gail Ann Dorsey, Janis Ian, Jenna Nicholls, Of The Dell, Sandra Bernhard, Sweet Petunia, Vandoliers, and Trixie Whitley
- Negotiate, book, and settle contracts for live appearances..
- Cultivate relationships with venue owners and promoters.
- A&R

**Kill Rock Stars Records (KRS); Nashville, TN** **2021 - present**

***Recording Artist & Consultant***

- Discover and refer talent
- Record and release music worldwide

**Raleigh Music Publishing; New York, NY** **2015 - present**

***Songwriter • Publisher***

Administers my publishing catalog and coordinates co-writes

**South by Southwest; Austin, TX** **2024**

***Official Panelist:***

- Licensed to Ill: The Cost of Not Prioritizing Wellness (2024)
- Survival in the Digital Age (2012)
- Navigating the 360° deal. (2008)

**Folk Alliance International; St. Lois MO** **2024**

***Official Panelist:***

The Road Less Traveled: Building a Healthier Touring Landscape

**Drive Music Agency (DMA)  
Booking and Consulting Agency**

**2023 - 2024**

***Founder | Manager***

Artists: Joh Chase, Brennan Wedl, Sweet Petunia

- Negotiate and Book live shows
- Counsel artists on professional decisions and opportunities
- Network to create relationships and opportunities
- Represent their interests with applicable managers and record labels

**Spotify Mechanical Licensing Committee**

**2019 - 2023**

***Court Appointed Committee Member***

The MLC was formed pursuant to the terms of the Ferrick v. Spotify Settlement Agreement and approved by the Court. We aim to discuss ways to increase the percentage of tracks available on Spotify's service that can be matched to registered copyright owners, to analyze confidential Spotify streaming analytics, and to create best practices for the appropriate and timely discharge of royalties. Register of Copyrights Karyn Temple made the Copyright Office Ruling on the designation of the MLC and approved by Librarian of Congress Carla D. Hayden.

**Right On Records LLC; Boston, MA**

**2000 - 2018**

***Founder, Executive Officer, and Recording Artist***

Strategic Planning

- Developed strategic plans for growth by analyzing target audiences and tracking digital analytics

Financial Management

- Generated revenue of upwards of \$5MM over twelve years
- Crowd-funded four projects generating \$120K
- Managed financial statements and negotiated all salaries, fees, contracts, and live performances.

Operations

- Oversaw 22 projects utilizing independent contractors for marketing and public relations
- Booked, advanced, and managed up to 200 shows per year
- Developed and nurtured industry relationships

Human Resources

- Hired and managed independent contractors for twelve projects
- Directly supervised and provided feedback to improve performance outcomes
- Consulted with industry professionals on current trends

Recording Artist

- Released eleven original albums and one documentary film

**Ferrick v. Spotify**

**2016 - 2018**

***Named Plaintiff***

- Class action lawsuit against Spotify for willful infringement of intellectual property.

Settled for \$43.45MM

**MUSICAL WORKS**

***Solo:*** Over 200 registered and published musical works.

***Co-writes:***

- Jessie Mueller and Melissa Ferrick
- Lori McKenna and Melissa Ferrick
  - Harmless
  - Fall
- Lori McKenna, Mary Gauthier, Melissa Ferrick
  - Making Our Younger Self Proud

## **MP&E CREDITS**

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### ***Produced, Engineered, and Mixed***

**1995 - present**

- Natalia Zukerman: album - Only One
- Nicole Reynolds: record - Bicycle
- Mal Blum: record - Overseas
- Alix Olsen: album - Protagonist
- Melissa Ferrick: albums –
- Freedom, Valentine Heartache, The Other Side, Enough About Me, \*Melissa Ferrick, You're No Rock and Roll Fun

### ***Produced***

- Melissa Ferrick: albums Skinnier, Faster Live at the B.P.C., Listen Hard, 70 People at 7000 feet, Live at Union Hall, Goodbye Youth, In the Eyes of Strangers, \*The Truth Is

### ***Co-Produced***

- Nalini: Gene in a Bottle w/ David Brophy
- Melissa Ferrick: Willing to Wait (Julie Last), \*Still Right Here w/ Alex Wong, In the Eyes of Strangers w/ Ethan Allen, \*Everything I Need w/ Rob Laufer, Black Dress w/ Dave Brophy

## **RECORDINGS**

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### **Kill Rock Stars Records: Nashville, TN**

**2021 - present**

#### Album

- Everything I Need - the Q Sessions

#### Singles

- Where Does the Good Go
- Black Dress
- You're No Rock and Roll Fun: Sleater Kinney 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### **Right On Records LLC; Boston, MA**

**2000 - 2019**

#### Albums

- Skinnier, Faster Live at the B.P.C.
- Valentine Heartache
- Listen Hard
- 70 People at 7000 feet
- The Other Side
- Live at Union Hall
- Goodbye Youth
- In the Eyes of Strangers
- Enough About Me
- \*Melissa Ferrick
- Decade (documentary)

### **MPress Records; New York, NY**

**2011 - 2014**

#### Albums

- \*Still Right Here
- \*The Truth Is

### **W.A.R. Records; Boulder, CO**

**1996 - 1999**

#### Albums

- +1
- \*Everything I Need
- Freedom

### **Atlantic Records; Los Angeles, CA**

**1992 - 1995**

#### Albums

- Massive Blur

- Willing to Wait

## **LIVE PERFORMANCES**

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### **Headliner:**

- Over four thousand shows throughout North America and Europe

### **Opening Act:**

- Morrissey, Tegan and Sara, Joan Armatrading, Bob Dylan, Ani DiFranco, Weezer, Marc Cohn, Paul Westerberg, Rufus Wainwright, Jeff Buckley, Anaïs Mitchell, John Hiatt, k.d. Lang, Del Amitri, Suzanne Vega, The Indigo Girls, Shawn Colvin

### **Festivals:**

- Newport Folk Festival (*multiple*), Clearwater Music Festival (*multiple*), Michigan Women's Festival (*multiple*), SXSW official artist: 1992 - 1995, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2012, and 2024, Rocky Mountain Folk Festival, Pickaton, Clearwater Festival, Kaliope Festival, WMNF Rock Festival, Glastonbury Music Festival, Phoenix Music Festival, Heineken Music Festival, Winnipeg Folk Festival, Ottawa Blues Festival, Edmonton Music Festival, Guelph Music Festival, etc.

### **Gay Pride's:**

- Birmingham, AL; Los Angeles, CA; San Diego, CA; San Francisco, CA; Washington, D.C.; Orlando, FL; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Iowa City, IO; Boston, MA; Grand Rapids, MI, Saint Louis, MO, Billings, MT, Charlotte, NC, Buffalo, NY; New York, NY; Portland, OR; Providence, RI; Dallas, TX; Salt Lake City, UT; Calgary, AB; Vancouver, BC; Halifax, NS; Toronto, ONT

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

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Keynote Speaker New England Folk Alliance

Independent Music Award (I.M.A.): Song of the Year nominee "Scenic View"

I.M.A. Alternative Country Album of the Year; Winner "The Truth Is"

International Independent Acoustic Music Award (I.I.A.M.A.): Song of the year; "You Let Me Be"

I.I.A.M.A: Song of the Year; "Singing with the Wind"

Right Out TV Music Video Award: Best Pop/Rock Song, "Still Right Here"

Right Out TV Music Video Award: Fan Favorite, Still Right Here

Out Magazine Album of the Year, Everything I Need

Boston Herald: #3 Song of the Year; "Stars Outnumber our Hearts,"

Nonhollywood.com: Top 50 Indie Women in Music

OUT Magazine's Top 100: *Most Influential Queer Artists and Activists*

Billboard's Heat-Seekers Album: #23, "Still Right Here"

Gay & Lesbian American Music Awards (GLAMA); Album of the Year, Everything I Need

Billboard; top ten AAA radio album, "Willing to Wait"

Time Out NY; a top-ten album of the year, Willing to Wait

Billboard; Top Ten Critique Pick, Massive Blur

Top Ten MTV Europe Single "Happy Song"

Billboard; Top Twenty AAA Radio, "Love Song"

The Village Voice; a top-ten album of the year, Massive Blur

Boston Music Awards: Eight-Time Winner, Singer-Songwriter of the Year

## **PLACEMENT**

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Film: I Love You, Don't Touch Me, Unavailable, Go Fish, Girl, Elana Undone

Podcasts: Glennon Doyle: We Can Do Hard Things, F\*cking Sober\_

TV: HBO, Sears, PGA, TBS, ABC, etc.

## **SERVICE, ADVOCACY, AFFILIATIONS**

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Music Industry affiliations: MMF, BMI, NSAI, WIM, SAG/AFTRA, AFM  
Alexandra Rieger: MIT doctoral student and Harvard MGH Fellow; Dissertation Committee  
Women in Music International; Vice Chair of Partnerships and Development  
Passim; Cambridge, MA, Board of Trustees, member

- Culture and Inclusion Committee member (DEI)
- The Folk Collective

The Granada House; Alston, MA, Board of Trustees, member  
Harvard University Alumni for Education (SIG); Board of Directors; liaison to HGSE

## **SKILLS**

- **Digital:** Microsoft 365, Canvas, Blackboard Learn, Adobe, Pro Tools, LOGIC, Google Drive, all social media platforms
- **Human:** organization, delegating, listening, mentoring, leading, teaching, performing, negotiating, writing, producing, divergent thinking, and humor.

## **LINKS TO WORKS**

[Melissa Ferrick \*official website\*](#)

[Behind the Album: Ralph Jaccodine & Jim Sullivan](#)

[Northeastern Giving Day Student Interview](#)

[Harvard Graduate School of Education: Performing in a New Role](#)

[Guestlisted Guitar Lesson: Melissa Ferrick on Songwriting](#)

[World Channel \(PBS\) Stories from the Stage](#)

[Billboard Magazine: Why Artist and Professor Melissa Ferrick is Suing Spotify](#)

[No Depression Magazine](#)

[Home \(official music video\)](#)

[Live with Any DiFranco, 32 Flavors; NY, NY](#)

[One on One: City Winery, NY, NY](#)

[Exploring Music Industry Ethics Panel](#)

[NY Times: Bowery Ballroom; Anne Powers](#)