



# Ben Hammond (BMI Artist)

Genre: Rock. Styles: Acoustic Soul-Pop, Jazz, Folk

Seeking performance opportunities, radio exposure and management/distribution possibilities. Performing as a soloist or with ensemble.

Location: Maine / Florida

Booking Phone: 941-323-1912

Email: [me@benhammondmusic.com](mailto:me@benhammondmusic.com)

Web: [www.benhammondmusic.com](http://www.benhammondmusic.com)

Myspace: [www.myspace.com/benhammondmusic](http://www.myspace.com/benhammondmusic)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/benhammondmusic](http://www.facebook.com/benhammondmusic)

## Bio/Background Information:

Born in the tiny town of Hiram, Maine and graduated in 2006 with a degree in Music Technology from McGill University in Montreal, Ben Hammond has since been touring (from his home in rural New England to New Zealand) and playing his unique brand of Acoustic Soul-Pop at a variety of festivals and hundreds of venues. In March 2008 Ben completed his full length studio album "[Reasonably] Honest" with a full band and Downbeat Magazine award winning mixer Reuben Ghose, which has garnered him radio interviews and airplay across the Northeast. On June 10th, 2008 Ben played to a sold out crowd (220+ people, 17\$ tickets, no opener) for his official hometown album launch at the breathtaking Stone Mountain Arts Center in Maine, which has featured such greats as Bela Fleck, Martin Sexton and the Indigo Girls. In just over one year since it's release "[Reasonably] Honest" has sold nearly 2,000 copies and continues to sell while Ben prepares for his upcoming live CD/DVD.

Schooled in jazz, raised on rock, immersed in soul, and fascinated with music the world over, Ben can just as easily be found strumming and singing a ballad as he can live looping an a cappella improvisation of throat singing, beatboxing, and harmonized scatting. When performing his composed material, either as a soloist or with his quartet, the music features Ben's engaging, soulful vocals weaved within a framework of genre-shifting instrumentation, providing a platform for his subtle, contemplative lyrics.

## Awards:

- 2010 Selected for "Noise Ordinance" CD Compilation of Sarasota Original Recording Artists
- 2009 Placement in award-winning film "The Graduates" of 2 songs through fan voting contest.
- 2008 and 2009 Ossipee Valley Songwriter's Contest Finalist
- 2008 Finalist in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest.
- 2008 2<sup>nd</sup> Place at the Solarfest Performing Songwriter's Competition
- 2008 Honorable Mention at West Coast Songwriters Competition
- 2004 Montreal ICCA Vocal Percussion Award
- 2001 Best Male Vocalist at the Maine State Vocal Jazz Competition

## Recording Appearances:

- Ben Hammond "[Reasonably] Honest" '08 and "No History Sessions" '06
- Guest on Renee Lee "Maple Groove" 2004 – Justin Time Records
- Effusion A Cappella "Unrestrained" 2006 and "Movin' Away" 2002

## Press/Quotes:

- "[This] singer-songwriter does a lot more than just play guitar; he beat boxes, circuit bends and writes damned good songs... his new CD, [Reasonably] Honest, has ten tracks that weave in and out of jazz, rock, reggae, rap and pop while staying true to a sound that is definitely Ben Hammond. [He] sounds, vocally, like Jamie Cullum and John Mayer and has a bouncy guitar style with great backbeats that remind me of Jack Johnson. The thing that sets him apart from those guys is his ability to blur the line between jazz, pop and hip-hop and do it so that it doesn't sound forced." **Darryl Gregory at Indie-Music.com**

- "The 10 songs on "Honest" encompass a spectrum of styles and expression. "Let's Get Alone" is soulful and driven, "It's OK" is a song with a swollen heart ... "Touch" is a spring-loaded toe tapper with... a funky sheen. "Start Breathing" turns in on itself through Hammond's lovelorn lyrics, sung with a controlled fervor that both soothes and burns. Congrats, Ben, on the standout record" **Aimse Pontti, Portland Press Herald**

(more information on reverse)

## Select Appearances:

- May 6th, 2010: Live CD/DVD Recording at Stone Mt Arts Center
  - Springs of 09 and 10: Weekly Residencies in Siesta Key, Sarasota, FL including the historic Beach Club
  - Dec 09: Residency at the Currach Irish Pub, New Zealand
  - June 09: Old Port Festival, Portland, ME
  - May 09: in Fryeburg at Arts Building Opening w/ Heather Masse
  - May 2008: Bucksport, ME w/ Tracy Grammer at Alamo Theater
  - June 2008: in Brownfield, ME at Stone Mountain Arts Center
  - June 2008: in NYC at Googie's Lounge (up @ the Living Room)
  - June 2008: Wave Gathering Festival, Asbury Park, NJ
  - June 2008: in Toronto, ON at the Central with White Room
  - Jan 2008: Sarasota Arts Day Festival
  - Aug 2007: in N. Conway, NH Arts Festival opening for Entrain
  - July 2006: Montreal International Jazz Festival w/ Joel Miller
  - June 2006: in Portland, ME at Pride Festival w/ Andi Fawcett
  - July 2003: Festival 500 in St Johns, Nfld w/ Bobby McFerrin
- For current schedule visit [www.benhammondmusic.com](http://www.benhammondmusic.com)

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## Press Release Information – Page 2 (continued)

### Press/Quotes (continued):

"The songs on "[Reasonably] Honest" may seem like a straightforward collection of love songs, but there's more going on. Hammond begins with the formula of a love ballad and gives it a twist. His songs feature conflict and struggle. They aren't all sunshine and rainbows. Unlike many of his contemporaries, Hammond is willing to go beyond the superficial and brush up against darker themes." **Alec Kerr, Conway Daily Sun**

### Broadcast/Airplay:

- Live performances on 96.5FM (WSLR Sarasota), 89.5FM (CIUT Toronto), 90.3FM (CKUT Montreal), 89.3FM (WHSN Bangor, ME) 100.3FM (WKIT Bangor, ME) 89.9FM (WERU Blue Hill, ME) 90.9FM (WMPG Portland, ME)
- "[Reasonably] Honest" and "No History Sessions" in rotation on all above stations plus many more including: 91.3FM (WUNH Durham, NH), 91.1FM (WMUA Amherst, MA), 98.9FM (WCLZ Portland, ME), 93.5FM (WMWV Conway, NH), 95.9FM (WATD Boston, MA) IndieTalent.ca Web Radio, Martha's Vineyard Web Radio (mvyradio.com), and dozens of podcasts around the world.
- Channel 3 Valley Vision in North Conway, NH.
- Live Performance on CTV in Montreal with Effusion A Cappella

### Repertoire:

- Over 30 original songs, two sets of original material.
- Over 600 Pop and Rock Covers ranging from Elvis to John Mayer.
- Over 150 Jazz Standards and Latin Classics, from Sinatra to Jobim
- Ability to learn / compose specific material in a wide variety of styles.

### Fanbase:

- Email mailing list (opted-in) of over 1500 people, mainly localized in the Northeast (New England and Montreal region) and Gulfcoast Florida but ranging from New Zealand to Newfoundland. Over 200 different cities, 32 States and Provinces, in nearly 20 different countries.
- Strong online presence, including average 2,000 unique visitors per month over the past 2 years, large friend/fan rosters on Myspace, Facebook, Bebo, and many more social networking sites.
- Have performed multiple sold-out concerts (200 tickets at 17\$)

### Personal Discography Info:

- Ben Hammond "[Reasonably] Honest" 2008 – Personally financed and organized, composed and co-produced. Sold over 1,300 in first 16 months.
- Ben Hammond "No History Sessions EP" 2006. Sold over 1,000 copies at shows and in local stores.

### Other Skills:

- Proficient in C/C++, Java, PHP, HTML/CSS/Javascript.
- Fluent in Finale, Adobe Photoshop, Quicktime Pro, Flash, Microsoft Office, Protools, Max/MSP, Quickbooks and many others. Extensive use of Windows, Macintosh and UNIX systems.
- Creation of digital studio recordings, short films, and DVD authoring.
- High degree of proficiency in French.
- Music Instructor with references (Guitar, Bass, Voice, Theory)

### [Reasonably] Honest Track Listing

(with suggestions for DJs in yellow):

1. **Let's Get Alone (3:31)** – **Funky/Hip-Hop Radio**
  2. **Worst Kind of Perfect (3:19)** – **Jazzy Radio**
  3. It's Ok (4:09)
  4. Lemme Know (3:28)
  5. [interlude] (0:31)
  6. Touch (2:43)
  7. Start Breathing (5:13)
  8. **When I'm Supposed To (3:51)** – **Reggae/Pop Radio**
  9. Even Though (4:31)
  10. **Another Friend (4:38)** – **Rock Radio**
- [TRACKS 11-15 APPEAR ON EXTENDED EDITION]
11. Kezar [instrumental] (2:00)
  12. No History (3:44)
  13. Doctor Girl (3:29)
  14. Except for You (4:09)
  15. Something New (2:12)

All Songs © 2008 and composed by Ben Hammond (BMI)  
Ben Hammond (guitars, vocals, beatboxing, theremin, sk1)  
Co-produced by Ben Hammond and Reuben Ghose  
Recorded and Engineered by Reuben Ghose at Phase  
One Studios and Studio Number 9 in Toronto, ON Canada  
Mastered by Will Quinnell, Sterling Sound in New York City

#### **Rhythm Section:**

Nico Dann (drums, vocals, percussion)  
Dan Fortin (bass)  
Gabe Nespoli (keys, B3 organ, piano)

#### **Also Featuring:**

Kweku Sam Kwofie (rap/backing vocals #1, #8, #10)  
Zach Finkelstein (backing vocals #2, #8, #10)  
Lindsay Hamilton (backing vocals #6, #8, #10)  
Gabi Epstein (backing vocals #8, #10)  
Scott McGuffin (bodhran #9)  
Jon Lindhorst (tenor sax #2)  
Maike (trumpets #1, #4)  
Mikael Tobias (elec. guitar #7, #10)  
Jeremy Cain (elec. guitar #8)  
Mick Mendelsohn (elec. guitar /slide #4, #6)  
Please view website for lyrics, video and more info.

### Contact:

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