

MUSICIAN. SINGER. SONGWRITER.

Alissa Musto



"Good musicians know how to make minimalism matter. Alissa Musto is among them."
TESSA ROY, SOUND OF BOSTON

*"Featuring **poignant authentic lyrics** and **skillful piano and vocal performance**...Alissa Musto has a true mastery of her craft. The way she sings is full of both control and vulnerability."* IAN MCFARLAND, ITS NOT RECORDS

"Jazzy-Folk Songwriting Genius, Alissa Musto Sings Her Heart Out on Hiding Away" RYAN CASSATA, ROCK THE PIGEON

*"Her rich interplay of piano and vocals recalls Elton John, with a little of that balladeer influence from Springsteen coming through in her **wonderfully soulful** musical journey."*
ROMAN KOWALSKI, JUSTLUXE

*"What We Saw from the Piano Bar is an amazingly well done album by a true artist and when I say the word "artist," I am referring to the **highest caliber of talent**, the kind of talent that has depth and merit, technical acumen (both vocal and instrumental), training, passion and originality."* BYRON HARRIS, INDIESPOONFUL

"It's clear after a few (dozen) listens to What We Saw From the Piano Bar that Alissa Musto is a young performer you absolutely owe it to yourself to get to know" GEOFF WILBUR'S MUSIC BLOG

*"Admirers describe her as a **female Elton John** and **the next Debbie Harry**"* LIMELIGHT
MAGAZINE

Alissa Musto



Alissa Musto's desire to perform began at four years old, sitting by the door with a garage sale guitar and begging her father, a professional musician, to take her to work with him. They struck a deal---if she learned to play the piano, Alissa could join. Less than a year later and equipped with a wooden block to reach the pedals, Alissa won her first piano competition performing Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata. Eager to follow in her father's footsteps and adding rock and vocals to her arrangements, Alissa grabbed the attention of local talent shows, NBC's Spotlight on the Student Artist series and the national television show, "America's Most Talented Kid".

Raised in Massachusetts, Alissa juggled her academic schedule with her musical aspirations, using lunch break to practice, performing in local venues on the

weekends and racking up local and national honors including "Piano Act of the Year" in the nationally-airing Wonderworld TV Golden Ribby Awards, top 3 in the 19 & under Music On & Up Showcase grand finale and top 10 in KidzStar USA, a talent search attracting 45,000+ entries. As part of the "Find Your Voice" competition, Music & Arts, the largest retail chain of band and orchestra instruments, chose Alissa and 4 other young artists nationwide to sponsor with new musical equipment and scholarships. Dubbed a "Rising Star of Jazz" by FirstWorks, Alissa was also asked to open for trumpet legend, Wynton Marsalis at the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium and signed on to the SuperCuts Rock the Cut national campaign for upcoming artists.

Alissa released her debut album, "What We Saw From the Piano Bar", on January 5th, 2015, the same day her biggest inspiration, Bruce Springsteen, released his debut album in

1973. Immediately following the release, her single “Black Flak” beat out many local artists in the MusicToVideo contest and caught the attention of radio shows and blogs nationally, including SiriusXM radio. Music from the album helped her secure one of six coveted spots, from over 4,300 entries, in the House of Blues Bringing Down the House Class of 2015. After successfully completing the program, she was invited to serve on the Music Forward Foundation Alumni Advisory Board and contribute to the Foundation's compilation album. Alissa's 2018 acoustic EP, “X Post Facto” has been described as “hauntingly beautiful”, “captivating”, “poignant, authentic” and “the millennial ballad of the century”. She has been praised for her writing as a “jazzy-folk songwriting genius” and “your generation's Billy Joel”.

In 2016, Alissa was crowned Miss Massachusetts and competed in the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City, placing as a top 15 finalist. During her year of service, Alissa continued the music education efforts she implemented as Miss Tri-County 2015 and Miss Cambridge 2016: bringing music programs into at-risk schools and speaking to students and community leaders throughout the Commonwealth about the benefits of arts education. As Miss Massachusetts, Alissa appeared on numerous news and radio shows, was honored by the Massachusetts House of Representatives, her hometown Board of Selectmen and the Massachusetts Governor's Office, and participated in dozens of speaking and appearance engagements at galas, award shows, fundraisers, schools, hospitals, club meetings and her personal favorite, the 116th annual Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade, the largest St. Patrick's Day celebration in the country.

Alissa has graced stages across the northeast and beyond including the House of Blues, the Hard Rock Cafe, Foxwoods Resort & Casino, the Rhode Island Convention Center, the Wang Theatre, Boston's prestige hotels, restaurants, universities and events for corporations, charities and political candidates. She has maintained long-term weekly residencies in the region's premiere venues and is a preferred entertainer within New England's top agencies. As a guest entertainer for Billboard Onboard, the pop piano show aboard Holland America's luxury cruise ships, Alissa has traveled throughout Europe, the Mediterranean, Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska and French Polynesia. In addition to being featured in dozens of local news publications and music blogs, Alissa has appeared in *Refinery29*, *Bustle*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Insider*, *Thrive*, *Reader's Digest* and *Moneyish*.

Funded by the scholarship money she earned through the Miss America Organization, Alissa is a Master of Music candidate at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music, where she studies Music Business and Entertainment Industries and was recently published in the Berklee Music Business Journal.

Alissa Musto

DISCOGRAPHY

WHAT WE SAW FROM THE PIANO BAR, RELEASED JANUARY 2015

All music and lyrics written and performed by Alissa Musto.
Recorded at Alex K Studios in Providence, Rhode Island.

X POST FACTO, RELEASED MARCH 2018

All music and lyrics written and performed by Alissa Musto
Recorded at Alex K Studios in Providence, Rhode Island.

Critics Weigh in on X POST FACTO and WHAT WE SAW FROM THE PIANO BAR



Alissa Musto – “Hiding Away”

-Any time you write a song that makes me think of John Fullbright, you're in good standing. That said, Alissa Musto has written a captivating song that is perfect for the “beneath the stars” image that this playlist is all about. It's about the city, but it also has this beautiful openness to it that's just like stargazing. The genre blend works on this one because Musto's style is just so likeable and believable. I want to hear what she can do on piano when she really lets loose! This feels like a tease of the potential of a rising new artist.



Good musicians know how to make minimalism matter. [Alissa Musto](#) is among them. With its ever-changing tones and soothing sound, the singer/songwriter's latest album *What We Saw From the Piano Bar* is beautifully understated.

Cambridge-based singer-songwriter Alissa Musto is no stranger to music. She began participating in piano competitions at five years old and once took a first place prize with her delivery of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata. She soon went on to receive other accolades, including a “Piano Act of the Year” title at the 2010 Golden Ribby Awards. Today, Musto is a piano teacher, a Harvard student, a performer, and the artist behind *What We Saw From the Piano Bar*.

As evidenced by its title and Musto's extensive work with the instrument, the album is piano oriented. While there is potential for it to become tiring, the riffs from the keys will not lull listeners to sleep. They serve as the foundation of each track's mood, forming the ethereal dreamscape of “American Princess,” complementing the reminiscent tone of “Pictures,” and adding to the bright energy of “Brovada.”

Musto's voice, though, plays just as big a role as her piano. She doesn't croon, she doesn't belt, and she doesn't often leave her low to mid-range. But she still begs you to listen. Musto glides in emotional despair in “The Palace,” “Paper only buys paper happiness,” but decides not to stay sad for long. “We're just some kids at the bar,” she sings in “Kids.” She exhibits as much ease with her vocals as she does with her piano accompaniment.

Musto's lyrics are simple yet profound. At times she is a philosopher, pondering “America's nicotine” and the true meaning of being free in “Freedom.” But other tracks position Musto as a reminiscent young woman, singing about her “pictures on the wall” in “Pictures.”

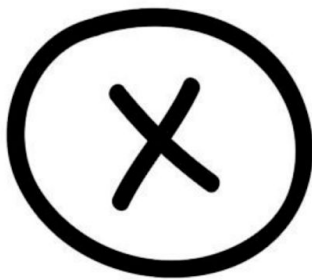
What We Saw From the Piano Bar will appeal mostly to those looking for something with a low-key, coffee-shop vibe. While it may not be as satisfying to listeners addicted to a big sound, it's a nice album for when you're craving a gentler one.

ROCK THE PIGEON

arts & culture

Jazzy-Folk Songwriting Genius, Alissa Musto Sings Her Heart Out on “Hiding Away”

Hailing from New England is the singing, songwriting, and piano playing extraordinaire Alissa Musto. She quickly captivates listeners on her jazzy piano driven ballad titled “Hiding Away.” Her smooth vocals float beautifully over tasteful piano chords and riffs. Alissa Musto sings confidentially on the track about a tour coming to a close and the desire for a simpler life away from a big city. “Hiding Away” is off of her record titled “X Post Facto (Acoustic)” which comprises of 5 wonderful stripped-down songs. Alissa Musto's voice and songwriting talent is strong enough to not need a large amount of production to make the song sound stronger than it is. The songwriting stands well enough as it is, in it's original form, acoustically. Enjoy the EP on Spotify now:



ITS NOT RECORDS

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Alissa Musto “Hiding Away”

🕒 October 19, 2018 👤 IAN MCFARLAND 📁 Uncategorized 💬 0

Featuring poignant authentic lyrics and skillful piano and vocal performance is “Hiding Away” by Alissa Musto. “Hiding Away” contains probably the best use of the minor four chord turnaround I've heard in a while. “Hiding Away” is a song about leaving the high rent, fast paced, chaotic life of the city for a quieter country life where the somber sound of the song. Alissa Musto has a true mastery of her craft the way she sings is full of both control and vulnerability. “Hiding Away” is a one on one song so play it on your walk home at night with your headphones in while you try to tune out the world and let Alissa Musto make you feel a little less alone in this world. Attached below are a link to stream the song as well as an artistic biography, enjoy!

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ARCHIVES



Projects

Current:

BILLBOARD ONBOARD

A two pianist show exclusively performed on Holland America's luxury cruise ships, celebrating fifty years of chart-topping hits. This interactive experience is made possible by a partnership with Billboard, the leading global destination for charts, news, trends and innovation in music.

Past:

OCEAN LINERS: GLAMOUR, SPEED & STYLE

A museum exhibit presented by the Peabody Essex Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, featuring a live pianist performing material from the Great American Songbook on an ash veneer petite piano (c. 1935) designed by Louise Süe for a suite aboard the Normandie

MASTRO'S RESTAURANTS: BOSTON & NYC

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MUSIC AVAILABLE ON SPOTIFY, ITUNES & AMAZON