

About Caro

For me, music is a way to experience a positive, fulfilling escape from reality. In a world filled with depressing news (war and the rise of right-wing extremism, just to name two), it's important for each of us to have a place where we can close the doors, shut our eyes, and catch our breath. I want those who listen to my music to, just like me, sink into the music, to get lost in the sound, and to block out the world around them – whether that be the next important meeting, any other emerging uncomfortable issue.

I grew up with a piano at home, and at five years old, I was finally allowed to take piano lessons. However, my family had no musical background, and the piano had ended up in our home purely by chance.

During school, I would wake up two hours early and practice Debussy as the first thing of my day. I developed a passion for singing and taught myself how to play guitar. Long hours spent in my room, completely absorbed in the music of indie rock bands like Paramore, were a huge part of my teenage years. It was during this time that I had my first performances, played in several bands, and then, at 17 (looking back, very young), I moved from my small town in southern Germany to Berlin, where I embarked on an exciting adventure in the pop and TV world, including the semifinals of *The Voice of Germany* in 2013, followed by a nationwide tour.

Despite all the new and mostly positive experiences, I began to realize during my time on the show that I wasn't exactly cut out for the pop and TV world. I remember sitting in the makeup room right before a live show, with curlers in my hair, feeling completely out of place in the makeup and glittery dress. It felt too much about appearance, and not enough about the music coming from within. I was always searching for music that truly moved me and was created for the sake of the music itself. The commotion around it distracted me, and I slowly began to lose my connection to music.

After my time on *The Voice*, I sought the exact opposite of glitz and glamour – jazz studies seemed like the perfect detox. Without any special prior knowledge of jazz, I threw myself into working towards the entrance exam for jazz vocals at the Mainz School of Music, and was thrilled to be accepted. There, I finally found a place and the headspace to experiment: projects with no particular goal, singing just for the sake of making music, late-night practice and jamming, and slowly finding my musical style without any outside pressure. I rediscovered my love for music.

During that period, I was introduced to jazz, folk, soul, and Brazilian music. In 2017, I attended a concert and fell in love with the music of Antonio Carlos Jobim, Elis Regina, and João Gilberto. It was clear to me immediately that I had to dive into this Brazilian music from the 60s and 70s, with all its sadness and joy of life! Having immersed myself in the Portuguese language and practiced for a year, I was finally ready to perform my first song, "Luiza" by Tom Jobim.

After my first album '*North e Sul*' (2020), which was a collection of selected pieces from North and South America, I wrote my own songs for my second album, in collaboration with my pianist and producer, Ulf Kleiner. The new album '*When You Know You Know*' will be released on May 2, 2025.