

# ***MONTE PRIDE - ARTIST BIOGRAPHY***

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Monte Pride's rich tenor voice and accomplished fingerstyle picking make him sound older than his years, but the enthusiasm he brings to the music and performance is all youthful, impassioned energy. That energy and appreciation shine through in his writing, every phrase weaving and winding to form a complex array of song. Monte draws inspiration from long-time trailblazing musicians such as Paul Simon and Bob Dylan, as well as contemporary folk genre-benders like The Tallest Man On Earth, Bon Iver, and Frontier Ruckus.

After releasing two well-received EPs, Monte felt it was time to record his first full-length album. Working with engineer and producer Elan Dantus in his Ann Arbor studio, Monte chose twelve original songs to showcase his evolving songwriting talents and musical direction. Focusing on honest storytelling and vivid lyricism, "Hawthorne Morning Sound" blends swelling cello, shimmering electric guitar, wistful lap steel riffs, lively banjo lines, and mellow acoustics with delicate, stirring vocals to bring songs of love, loss, and longing to life.

Monte Pride has performed locally and around the state of Michigan for the past three years, quickly becoming a part of the Lansing & mid-Michigan folk scene. He has supported notable touring acts including The Cactus Blossoms, Rocky Votolato, Mutual Benefit, Florist, and The Bones of JR Jones, along with Michigan favorites The Ragbirds, Watching for Foxes, The Soil & the Sun, and Less is More. Monte has performed frequently farmer's markets, open mics, and Lansing venues like The Robin Theatre, The Loft, Mac's Bar, and The Old Town General Store, with other performances at local and regional festivals including the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, Pumpstock, Capital City Film Festival, Stoopfest, EastXEast Lansing, and Renegade Theatre Festival.

In the fall of 2014 Monte recorded and released his first EP, "Hollows On High", with John Beltran of Delsin Records. He followed this release with his second self-released EP, "The Soul Sender", in the fall of 2015. November 2016 marked the release of his first full length album, "Hawthorne Morning Sound". It was met with a sold out show at The Robin Theatre in Lansing (11/18/16). This performance also introduced cellist Benjy Joungh as a part of Monte's live sound, adding a rich layer and creating a transcendent sonic atmosphere.

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## **Condensed Artist Bio:**

Monte Pride is a Michigan-born, Michigan-based singer-songwriter and fingerstyle guitarist whose songs recall the delicate & stirring vocals of Simon & Garfunkel, with guitar-work reminiscent of Nick Drake and The Tallest Man on Earth. He blends haunting melodies with vivid lyricism, bringing stories of love, loss, and longing to life in a complex array of song.