

# Picking with Charlie Rae Welch



Charlie enjoys writing songs. Singer/songwriters who have inspired him include John Prine, Kris Kristofferson and Bob Dylan. Though he writes in different genres, his guitar style leads him to favor country. One instrument that interests him is keyboard. He believes it would be a great song writing tool. He played trumpet through school, dropping it at age 25.

He says that love is the main subject in a lot of the songs, and lyrics are most important to him. He prefers to write open ended songs that let the listener get involved and decide for himself "the rest of the story". He agrees that each and every songwriter has a chance to write that "great" song, but getting it published is another story. Charlie doesn't write with "hit or flop" on his mind, just tries to write to the best of his ability.

"I don't think the old country western genre will be back anytime soon, but it was a great starting place for country and some are real classics." He claims different styles will always present themselves and a following will develop for a time. He personally doesn't care for the styles that

promote yelling and extreme volume, noting that even country is leaning that way nowadays. "When you write lyrics, you hope someone will actually be listening to them."

"I joined NSAI for the chance to network with other songwriters" he says, "It has been time well spent".

Charlie's work as an art director, graphic designer and eventual creative director, required living in Nebraska, Iowa, and Illinois. This was followed by a short retirement spell in Oregon, then back to his native Nebraska. His wife Margie is his best inspiration and his biggest fan. He has four children, three sons in California and a daughter in New Jersey. He has 6 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren. Published song: "Someone's Waiting".

