



Singer/Songwriter, Performer

Growing up listening to her mother sing was the inspiration Kelly found to become a songwriter. Her first memory of music was her mother's voice as she sang along with records late at night. A single mother of five living with hardship and pain, music was her mother's salvation. In her teens Kelly dealt with what she felt and saw in others by writing songs about it. She wrote songs of disappointment, pain, loss, loneliness and so much more but always of survival which was something her mom taught her to do no matter what. In 1995, performing her original songs on stage with a band sparked a passion and soon thereafter created a strong songwriting team of Kelly Z and her guitar player, Perry Robertson. Writing alone or with Perry, Kelly uses music to help ease the sorrows of the life she sees around her, to stay strong and to find a way to understand a life that sometimes makes no sense. [Kelly's songs](#) always make her listeners smile as they find a way to understand their own struggles through her lyrics and music. Kelly's empathy is clearly expressed in her beautiful and emotional performance of Mary's words and Kelly's own original music. The combination is unforgettable.

MARY LONDON SZPARA



Mary was raised on the shores of Lake Michigan and was determined to "Move where it's warm" at an early age. The opportunity arose as she turned her love of music into her calling as a radio DJ. She became a gypsy moving from city to city, finally landing in Richmond Virginia where she met the love of her life and soulmate Michael. They moved throughout The States, finally landing in Charlotte NC, where Mary was a rock and roll DJ, turned voice actor. When Michael died, she poured her thoughts into volumes of journals and the book "The Loss World" was the end result. It was released in 2013. With the encouragement of friend and director Glenda Kale, it was adapted for stage in 2015 as The Loss World Monologues. The debut performance featured a cast of nine women. Each turning Mary's words into their own and bringing sorrow and loss to a responsive audience. In late 2017, Kelly Z approached Mary about a collaboration of spoken word and music. After months of collaboration. Mary and Kelly were able to bring Mary's words and Kelly's music together to create The Loss World Monologues 2.0 which debuted in 2018. TLWM 2.0 continues in 2019.