

## BLOOM

Her musical idols are many, from Ella Fitzgerald and Kanye West to a lesser-known Amel LaRue. Yet, the St. Louis artist known as Bloom found her first inspirations were right there at home.

"I grew up in a musical family; my mother was a jazz singer," Bloom explained. "My grandmother was a piano teacher, and my grandfather was a saxophone player ... so I grew up singing Jazz."

"I was born Kalyn Lia McNeil, and I dabbled in music, but I was afraid to really be myself and break out of the Jazz background." But recently, she became **Bloom**. The self-named artist explains it this way, "I have bloomed. I have become confident, unapologetic, and unafraid, breaking out and using that jazz inspiration, but also using the inspirations I got from Rock and R&B, Country and Pop, and making it my own. Bloom is symbolic of me becoming who I am."

Bloom doesn't want to put her music in a box or category, but it does have broad appeal. She had breakout success with her first single, "Raindrops," when it received more than 53,000 plays on SoundCloud in its first month. Now her [SIN]ses EP is following suit. Seasoned producer Dylan Brady co-created these tracks, but Bloom writes all her songs, adding, "...for me, the writing process is just as beautiful as performing it and recording it. It is where I started."

Now, she's beginning to get the big-name attention you want as an up-and-coming artist - but she doesn't plan to leave St. Louis. "There are so many things going on right now, so many developments happening in the art and music communities. I'm thrilled to be here, proud of St. Louis, and happy to call it my home."