

The collaborator – Pam Sheyne

Starting out as a backing singer, Pam Sheyne was en route to becoming a solo artist when writing for others took over as the focus of her career. Her biggest hit has been *Genie In A Bottle* for Christina Aguilera (written with David Frank and Steve Kipner), a worldwide Number 1 in 1999. ►►

'Melody is the most natural part of the process for me and, most of the time, comes easily. I sometimes find lyrics hard work, especially when you're trying to be different and keep things fresh. I often write lyrics by myself and love the feeling of shutting off the entire world and losing myself in a song. But it's also good to co-write lyrics, to take

nobody buys a song for the verse

you somewhere you wouldn't have gone on your own. It's important to have the artist's input, if possible, as they're the ones who have to sell the song and make it believable.

I get ideas down on whatever comes to hand. I used to be a real pen and paper girl but now I like using the computer. I've started using a program called Masterwriter which can be helpful if you're having a bit of a writer's block day.

Genie In A Bottle started on a trip to LA. A friend of mine suggested I get together with David Frank.

He brought in Steve Kipner. He played Steve and I a few tracks he'd put together and we immediately chose the one that ended up being *Genie* as it stood out. I had a few lyrics written down and threw them into the pot. We started at the verse and wrote the chorus on the way down.

I sang down the vocal and backing vocals. David edited it, added a few things and mixed the song. The following week he had interest from three artists, one of them being Christina. The demo wasn't too different from the finished master, other than her vocal, in fact, my backing vocals are still on it.'
