France D’Amour grew up in Mont-Rolland just north of Montreal, surrounded by her adoptive parents, he sister and two brothers. She was the artistic one in the family, she was searching for the meaning of life at thirteen. Music resonated through her and quickly brought answers to her questions.

France was attracted to the guitar at a very young age, finally her father granted her wish at fourteen and gave her one of her own. She grew up listening to Ricky Lee Jones and Joni Mitchell’s guitar tone (musicians that she admires for their musicianship and songwriting talents), France D’Amour set her hopes on one day being able to compose and perform songs of her own.

Her guitar and piano (her second instrument) lessons in high school started her on her road to being a musician. Her rebellious nature came though in college when she broke down barriers and became the first woman to sign up to the jazz guitar concentration in the music department. There she explored all the facets of music.

Pregnant at twenty, her plan had to be modified; friends she should take it easy and to take some time away from touring. However, no rest for the passionate France, she clung to the road and the stage until she was seven months pregnant! Two months after her son’s birth, she returned, more radiant than ever, convinced that her dual roles as mother and touring artist were tailor made for her. Time would tell.

The era of unforgettable club tours spanned five years, during this time France D’Amour honed her skills along with many different bands composed mainly of her close friends. More often than not, only the band name changed from show to show. However as the band began to play more often they decided to stick to the moniker “France”.

Perhaps her talent would have led her along the same path…however one of her over enthusiastic guitar players decided to send a demo to a local radio station that was running a new talent contest. The demo peaked the interest and the curiosity of record producer Nick Carbone. Thrilled and excited, the band invites him to one of their shows in Granby. Despite the audience…of three people, France D’Amour and her band manage to impress nonetheless. Things started to move quickly from then on. The impetuous singer songwriter signs her first record deal with Tacca Musique in 1992. She remained with the label almost 20 years and recorded eight albums: Animal (1992), Déchaînée (1994), Le Silence des roses (1998), Nomade (2000), France D’Amour (2002), Hors de tout doute (2005), Les Autres (2007) and Le present (2009).

**ANIMAL | 1992**

Declared an instant classic by the Quebec pubic as soon as it was released, France D’Amour took her success in stride, since she was never expecting it. In her eyes, her greatest pleasure was communicating her all consuming passion for music to and ever growing public. Songs like: L'Appât des mots, Toi, Laisse-moi la chance, Ailleurs, Animal and Solitaire were huge radio hits beyond anyone’s expectations. The album goes Gold almost instantly. Critics also applaud France for her stage presence and with reason; France’s high-octane performances electrify fans far and wide.

**DÉCHAÎNÉE | 1994**

With the release of Déchaînée, her second album, France D’Amour confirms that she was not a one hit wonder. With a sound resembling her debut, this new album solidifies her rocker image. The singles: Vivante, Mon Frère, Va t'en pas, J'ai plus ma place, Confidente, La chanson des fleurs et Lettre à ma mère also tell the tale. Like her previous album, Déchaînée quickly goes Gold.

**LE SILENCE DES ROSES | 1998**

On this her third album, France D’Amour decided to push the boundaries of her sound, to explore new textures, the studio and to challenge herself and her fans to evolve. Cloistered for days behind mountains of albums, she listens. Even though she could not define the sound she was looking for, she knows what it is when she hears it. Finally, a revelation: the dissonance and rhythms of the songs by Canadian band The Odds is exactly what she was looking for. She audaciously calls Odds guitarist Steven Drake and lets him know how much she admires his work and wishes to collaborate with him. Steven agrees and the chemistry between the two musicians is evident almost immediately. The first song recorded in studio (Je t’aime encore) was so perfect that the first take was the one used on the album. Many songs off Le silence des roses were radio hits such as: Je t'aime encore, On est comme on est, Si j'ai tort, Je comprends et Si c’était vrai. Le silence des roses marks a great evolution in France D’Amour’s career.

After several Adisq (Quebec’s Grammy awards) nominations for her concerts and albums as a singer songwriter, France ventures out and starts work on a many projects. She starts writing songs for other artists, she composed, among others, Tombée de toi that Isabelle Boulay would popularize. She hosted Quebec’s St-Jean Baptiste festivites in Quebec City and sang alongside many legendary Quebec singers. She also begins hosting radio and TV programs: she fills in for Julie Snyder on le Point J for a brief period (she would later also host the morning show on Rythme FM radio and was a judge for VJ recherché on Musique Plus. She also becomes spokesperson for the Grand prix de la relève Archambault which recognizes up and coming talent. France also whets her appetite for cinema and the stage with roles in two box office hits, Les Boys 3 and plays Esmeralda in the adaptation of the Hunchback of Notre-Dame (Notre-Dame de Paris).

**NOTRE-DAME DE PARIS | 1998**

During her Le silence des roses tour, prolific Quebec songwriter Luc Plamondon asks France D’Amour to audition for the role of Esmeralda in Notre-Dame de Paris (The Hunchback of Notre-Dame). Thinking that she wouldn’t get the part she declines. Plamondon, insistent, invites her to see the show in Paris. She needn’t any more convincing she was hooked. Her transition from the school of rock and more “classical” training was gradual while France D’Amour absorbed the skills and rudiments of the stage production. France was hooked on Notre-Dame de Paris, she reread the Victor Hugo novel, saw all the films and adaptations that were inspired by Hugo’s book. Her portrayal of Esmeralda wows critics and audiences alike.

**SELF TITLED | 2002**

Shortly before the end of Notre-Dame de Paris’ run of shows, France receives a call from singer songwriter Kapler (Robert Goldman). Kapler, blown away by her talent, wishes to make an album with her. France D’Amour returns to Quebec, she also brought with her a wealth of experience…and an audacious new project. She starts writing immediately before meeting with Kapler again. He suggests material and music concocted with his brother Jean-Jacques Goldman and Jacques Venerusa. Together they form a solid songwriting team and the resulting album birthed hits such as: Laisse-moi, Je n’irai pas ailleurs, Ce qui me reste de toi and Que des mots. This album catapults France D’amour on a huge tour of France. She performs over twenty shows at the Zénith and opens for singer Garou. During this time, France wins a Gémeaux (Quebec’s Gemini awards) for a TV special that she put together while on the road with her team entitled: D’Amour de d’amitié.

**HORS DE TOUT DOUTE | 2005**

Following her tour in France and throughout Quebec, France decides to pick up and sail away with her guitars. She finally drops anchor in the Gulf of Mexico. She stays for about a year, and rejoices in these new surroundings and takes pleasure in writing and composing new material. “This album is all about the little girl that grew up listening to Joni Mitchell, the jazz student, the bar rocker and the perfectionist musicienne.” France composes the music for the entire album and calls on the some of Quebec’s greatest lyricists: Roger Tabra (Éric Lapointe, Isabelle Boulay), Lynda Lemay and by producer Marc-André Chabot. The single: J’entends ta voix, was perched at #1 on Quebec radio for over two months.

**LES AUTRES | 2007**

Produced with her longtime collaboration Guy Tourville, the singer songwriter dedicated Les Autres to all the people around her, people she cares deeply about. The album is lyrically incisive at times even humourous, notably the song Le Bonheur te fait de l’oeil written with friend and comedian François Léveillé. The song was #1 for several weeks on the Quebec radio charts. France also modified the lyrics to: Le Canadien te fait de l’oeil in conjunction with the Montreal Canadiens playoff run, the song saw heavy airplay once again during the entire playoffs.

**LE PRÉSENT | 2009**

Following Les Autres, France decides to offer a gift to her fans that have been with her throughout her twenty-year career. She enters the studio once again to record Le present, an album that comprises of reinterpretations of her greatest hits. She asks her fans for their input from the beginning of the recording process. Via her website fans were asked to submit their song requests and were invited in studio to witness the recording process. Two new songs emerged from the sessions: Le present a duet with Clment Jacques and Pourrons-nous jamais être amis? with Steve Veilleux from Quebec rock band Kaïn. The album also featured a version of Animal with rapper Imposs where he responds to France’s lyrics in a way only he can.

**BUBBLE BATH & CHAMPAGNE | 2011**

At the beginning of 2011, after twenty-years with Tacca, France signs with a new company: Tandem.mu and realizes a lifelong dream. She goes back to her youth and records a jazz album inspired by the music of the 20’s, 30’s and 40’s titled Bubble Bath & Champagne. In the beginning, France D’Amour wanted to record an hommage to the era and record her favorite standards. Ever the songwriter, she decides instead to use her own jazz compositions. The album was well received by her longtime fans and critics a like, and so far, has also been a commercial success. With Bubble Bath & Champagne, France was able to realize one of her biggest dreams as well: to play in jazz festivals across the world.