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Former *Australian Idol* contestant Dan England has released a single on an independent label.

Picture: BRITTA CAMPION

## Indie release gives Idol's England a reason to fly

He's going down the familiar path of *Australian Idol* finalists – releasing an independent record.

But Dan England reckons he has more grass roots music cred than people realise.

"I did five years of live gigs to get myself established before *Idol*," he said.

"I also did a contemporary music degree at Southern Cross University, which many people don't know."

Despite being grateful to *Idol* for the exposure, England always wanted to go independent.

*Reason to Fly* breaks from the polished pop mould.

"I started writing it at Avalon Airport while I was waiting for someone to pick me up. I pulled out my guitar and the riff just came to me," England said.

"It's about the everyday things you go through in a relationship – it's how you want the relationship to be."

England is happy to continue co-writing his own lyrics as well as having some creative control over what he is doing.

England will release *Reason to Fly* on a self-titled mini-album under independent label Jellyfish and MGM on October 14.

– LYNETTE MILLER