

Look! It's Kim Stockwood

by Michael Edwards
Brunswickan Entertainment

Kim Stockwood's first concert in town passed pretty much unnoticed by the world in general. And that is rather sad as she put on one of the more entertaining shows that I have seen in a while, if only for the impromptu cover versions that the band launched into at every opportunity. Nobody was safe.

The other entertaining aspect of the show was the frequency with which she had herself a 'sociable' drink with the audience (who joined in by sending all manner of noxious beverages to the stage with their compliments). But despite all that, she was able to grant *The Brunswickan* an interview after it was all over.

So when I last saw you, the album was just coming out. What have you done since then?

Cried, pulled my hair out, re-evaluated everything about my existence and had a lot of fun. I did an acoustic tour out West, and then this tour. I've made two videos, done an awful lot of interviews and now the tour.

What did people say about the album?

I got really good press saying I had good songs... I feel so weird saying these things myself as I feel like I am building myself up. I've grown away from a lot of stuff on the record, and that's a natural thing as I've been writing so much, and I'm writing differently now. But I still wouldn't change anything as I had to make this record, and had to put some of the more country stuff on there that I did.

One of the reasons you entered the spotlight was because of the country songs on the album - why are you moving away from that now?

Well, Patsy Cline was the reason I started singing, but I feel like a pop artist - I want to try different things. My voice is very powerful, especially when I sing 50's style music, but I haven't found the place yet where I can sing like that and have a pop song. k.d. lang was seen for years as a 'country' singer - she had a voice which blew people away, but people didn't know exactly what she was. The people who were coming to her shows didn't even like country music, but they liked her voice. Then on *Ingenue*, she made the marriage - she still used her voice in that Patsy Cline way, but it was pop. I have a long way to go before I get there, but that's where I want to go. This is just my first record, and there was no way I could ignore the reason I started singing. My voice was kinda deep, and it was the most natural thing in the world for me to sing 'Crazy' and people just went nuts because I could sing it just like her. Maybe I won't have to worry about it, and I'll get to the point where I just do what I do.

You stopped off at the East Coast Music Awards too - how was that, and whose jacket did you have on?

You liked my jacket? That was John Alan Cameron's. I felt like an idiot because I was on tour and I didn't have any clothes with me. I knew my mother was watching, so when John Alan Cameron came up in a nifty coat, I thought "Wow, that would be a great

coat to wear on stage." My mother was totally amazed - I made her proud.

But you didn't win, did you?

No. I was up for two, but I didn't win - it's too new to me. No matter how corny it sounds, it was beautiful to be nominated.

And nominated for some Junos too...

Yup, for Best New Solo Artist, along with Ashley McIsaac, Laura Smith, Amanda Marshall and someone else.

Are you playing at the awards?

No, not at the awards, but I am playing around the awards. I'm opening for a guy called Loudon Wainwright, doing a few shows by myself, and then I think I'm going to Denmark.

You are big in Denmark?

In Denmark, and Top Ten in Poland. It's so weird. And I'm still crying myself to sleep - I don't even know what the next single should be.

I still love your first single, 'She's Not In Love'. How did you find that song?

Jill Sobule wrote it with two people that I write with, and I heard one of them sing it and I lost my mind - I knew it was a hit song.

Are you going to work with her again?

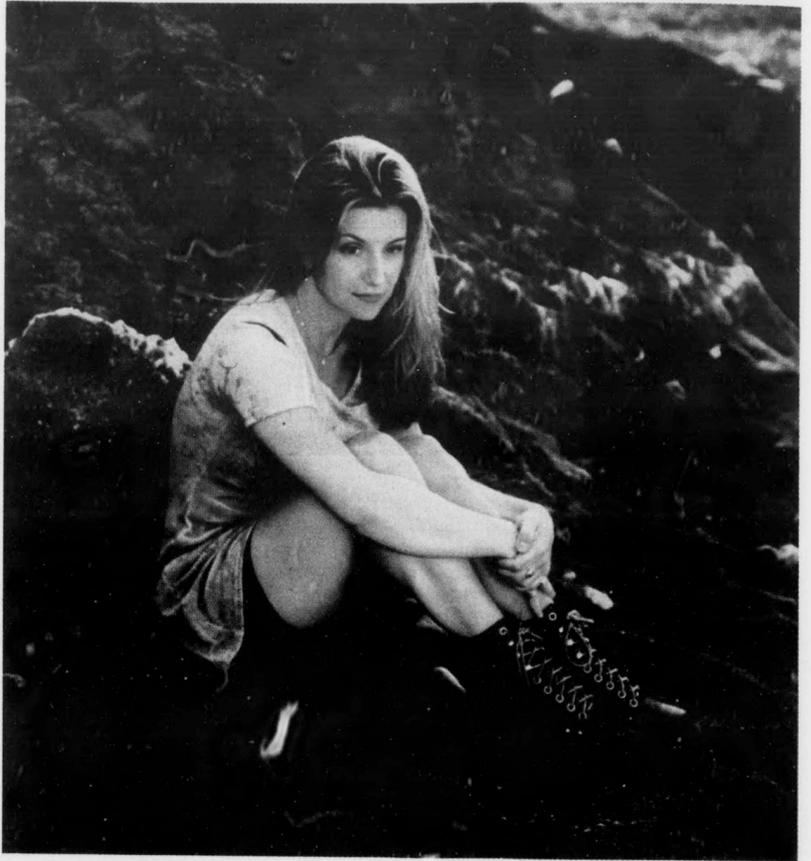
I'm hoping to write with her in the next couple of weeks. I just adore her - she is one of the coolest people that I have ever met. I'm going to do a lot of writing in the next couple of weeks, and maybe record two of them to put on the album. We might be reprinting it with two new songs - 'Femme Fatale' will probably be one of them, and something else.

So what is next for you?

I'm a singer - that's what I started as, and then before I knew it, I had a publishing deal to write songs and it was the weirdest thing in the world as I didn't consider myself a writer at all. I very well could have recorded the record without writing any of the songs on it, but by some weird stroke of luck I got the publishing deal where people believed in me. Then when I started to write songs, I noticed that my influences were a lot more diverse than I thought they were - a lot more pop, and a lot more bizarre.

So who would you say those influences are and who are listening to today?

Well, definitely Patsy Cline, but I love Sinead O'Connor, I love The Velvet Underground, I love Van Morrison, I love Bob Dylan's songs. My favourite band of the moment is Radiohead - their songs are such pop songs but they are so dynamic, and Thom Yorke is such an incredible singer. I really don't care what bands do or how loud the guitars are, just as long as the songs are good. And Radiohead's songs are phenomenal. My other favourite band is a Canadian band called The Odds - I adore them. But my taste is all over the place - I love the Mavericks. I love Rage Against The Machine; it's frantic, but it's melodic. I love PJ Harvey. And Waylon Jennings. You know, some day I won't have to qualify where I am musically, and that comes with playing live. I'm going to do whatever I want - I'm going to sing pop songs and I'm going to sing a Patsy Cline tune, and if you think that's country then I'm sorry if you don't like it. But if you like it, that's great.



Did you have fun up there tonight?

Hello? We were playing 'Tainted Love' up there, so I think we were. I only knew one verse, but it didn't matter as people were dancing. It's so cool when you get to do things that you usually don't get to do. The crowd were in my face, and I loved it - I was sitting on the stage singing a Bob Dylan tune. We are definitely coming back here. It never gets any better than playing in pubs so that people are right in front of you, and you can hear exactly what they are saying. I'm lucky as tonight I could drink and still perform, but a lot of times you can't drink on stage because it really coats your throat. It's like having poutine throat - it's really gross. We played 'Tainted Love' - we must have been out of our minds...

You performed 'Femme Fatale', the Velvet Underground song - that seems like a weird choice considering the other material on the album.

You know that song? It is one of the first songs that I ever sang in public, and it is one of those songs that you know is for you. I've been playing it for four and a half years now.

[At this point, we were joined by Tim Bovaconti, the guitarist from Kim's band]

And let's have a quote from Tim on tonight's activities:

I would have to say that tonight was a scandalous affair.

Scandalous? In what way Tim?

Well, we played a lot of songs that we've never attempted because the audience was entirely forgiving, and it was a great vibe.

Did we pull it off?

I think we did. We had a stellar attitude - we pulled it off and had a great time. And tonight was so exciting that I broke my first string of the tour. The big E string.

[Tim didn't have much else to say, but things began to deteriorate into an awful lot of singing and not much else]

So any final words for us?

At the end of the day, all that I ask is that I remain a good person, in that

I will respect all living people and animals and anything that breathes. That sounds very corny, but I have parents who are the coolest people in life, and I always want to make them proud. That's what I have to live with when I go to bed at night.

Competition Results



Once again, The Beatles Competition managed to attract a huge number of entries. But before we get to the winners, here are the correct answers:

1. Ringo Starr is the oldest (by a few months over John).
2. Hey Jude.
3. A Hard Day's Night, Help, Magical Mystery Tour, Yellow Submarine and Let It Be.
4. Wonderwall Music (giving Oasis' 'Wonderwall')
5. How I Won The War.
6. a) The Beatles (or The White Album), b) Yellow Submarine, c) Revolver, d) Let It Be, e) A Hard Day's Night.

The grand prize of a copy of *Anthology 2* and two Beatles pins goes to:

Chris Hopkins

These two lucky people have each won a copy of *Anthology 2*:

Matt Savage & Kelly Price

The following people have each won a consolation prize of a Beatles pin: Aaron Savage, Jay Allison, Andrew Debly and Dany Thériault.

Thanks again to everyone who took the time to enter.