

*Railway Station I*

*i have sat here now  
for six and a half years  
with my bags packed*

*the train leaves at eight  
every morning  
but i do not get on*

*at the hot dog stand  
i meet an old acquaintance  
we exchange greetings*

Karl Wendt

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# Touching Halifax

By Michele Thibeau

Sarah McLachlan, a native vocalist and songwriter of October game fame, has just put out her first solo album on Nettwerk Records, called *Touch*, and it does just that to one's heart. From the first time it is played the amazing combination of melodies and vocal arrangements enchant the listener.

Some people may think that this album resembles work by British vocalist/songwriter Kate Bush, and they would not be wrong. However, Sarah herself admits being heavily influenced by Bush and they share similar vocal ranges and power. In Sarah's case, she has the experience of five years of vocal training, eight years of classical piano and twelve years of classical guitar.

Nettwerk first discovered Sarah when she played with the October Game and they opened for Moev. The band itself asked her to front them, but she waited until late

1987 to accept a solo deal with Nettwerk. She is now living in Vancouver, where the album was produced.

The album itself is quite a piece of work. Within the package one finds lots of different sounds, such as the more fast-

paced single "Vox" and the rhythmic chant-like quality of the title song "Touch". One of my favourite pieces on the album is called "Uphill Battle". This instrumental is one of those songs which have twice the effect when your eyes are closed. The music moves slowly, one instrument at a time, up a hill, gently peaking, and once once more faces an uphill battle. It ends realistically in the middle before the next hill begins.

If you enjoy the music of Kate Bush and Sinead O'Connor then you will find this album delightful, especially because it represents the talent from your home town.

Sarah McLachlan



T o u c h

Out of the Shadows	Vox
Steaming	Sad Clown
Strange World	Uphill Battle
Touch	Ben's Song

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