

Humming Boyd

by Scott Neily

International guitar superstar Liona Boyd played the Rebecca Cohn last Wednesday to a near capacity crowd. Currently on a two month, 40 city tour to promote her 15th release *Encore!*, stops include Paris, Vancouver and Los Angeles.

Unlike her last two visits to Halifax, her concert on Wednesday was a solo performance, showcasing material from her latest album as well as several even newer pieces. A 'light classical' concert, the music tended toward more modern styles — folk and romantic, with a touch of flamenco and new age for flavour. In a recent interview, Liona spoke of her upcoming plans. "This tour should appeal to a wide variety of people," she observed. "It's a melodic concert, accessible to the new age audience even though the selections are classically based. So far the audience response has been great and quite wide ranging — grandmothers to little kids, and even some real rockers who know me from my *Persona* tour."

Liona has been very busy lately, and is currently working on several projects. She is preparing a Christmas record called *Christmas Dreams*, which will feature some of her own material.

A "middle of the road" record, the titled track features Roger Whittaker on lead vocals. A departure from her usual style, the music and the lyrics for the song were written entirely by Liona. Also appearing on the album is the great pan flutist, Zamfir. In addition to the upcoming Christmas album, she also plans to release in June a compilation of older works that she recorded in London on Boot Records. Entitled *Highlights*, the album will showcase her earlier work and will feature a selection of mainly classical pieces. She also plans to record a classical album with her former teacher, Alexandre Lagoya, next year. On top of all that, Liona has also begun pre-production on a pop classical record that will be released sometime next year. Like her *Persona* record, the album will be composed of mainly new selections, many of which Liona wrote herself. Liona admits that her writing style leans more towards new age and pop than classical, and confides that the songs will be written with that in mind.

Although Liona has never considered herself to be a singer, she has recorded some material that features her singing backing vocals. In addition to chorus participation in the "Tears are Not

Enough" relief project, she also wrote a song called "The Hands of Man" for a rare Olympic compilation LP entitled *The Big Picture: Dream on the Horizon*. Two versions of the song are featured. One is an instrumental arrangement that also showcases the talents of rock guitarists Rik Emmett and Alex Lifeson, and the other is a vocal version that features Liona singing backup vocals.

The reason for the delay in adding singing to her talents, she revealed, was that she had been tossed out of an English choir when she was five and was traumatized by the experience. Hence, she has avoided singing until now. Her vocals can also be heard with Roger Whittaker on "Christmas Dreams" and she intends to practice over the summer to prepare herself for performing on her pop LP.

Liona has also switched record labels recently. While she has had a good working relationship with CBS for many years, she feels that her move to A&M Records will allow her to explore different aspects of music, anything from classical and folk to new age and rock. She would also like to enter the video age with an 'artsy' video, something along the lines of what Irish new age performer



Liona Boyd serenaded at the Rebecca Cohn.

Enya has produced with her hit single "Orinoco Flow". She was disappointed that CBS did not release a video from her 1990 pop album.

With three albums in 1989, at

least two in 1990, another tour no doubt, it appears that Liona Boyd's quest for a varied career is coming true. And why not? "I want to do everything," she said in the interview. "I want it all."

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many readers, and the other-forwarding the important message in an informative way so that anybody having read the article would not feel discontent or distaste. The use of strong, vulgar words will not make the contents more meaningful.

Although English is not my native tongue, I know that it is rich and does not lack ways of expressing ideas. Being a university student one should be able to express them in a mature and at the same time unoffensive way. The Gazette is supposed to represent Dalhousie community in general and the language of published articles should reflect the language used by the majority of students.

I feel strongly about the use, or abuse of any language though I am not a linguistic purist. There are issues where strong words may be of great help, but in an intimate matter such as sex it is really not educative. The only education "Sex Tips" gave was the one in vulgarisms. In my personal opinion the message of the safe sex did not come across. And if that is so, what was the real purpose of the article? If its aim was to educate then it definitely missed the boat.

Monika Lozinska

OOPS

Apologies to Paull Grandy. He was responsible for all of last week's cover photos.

Opinion

Pressure prohibits the abortion pill

by Cigana Raven

With talk of a Morgentaler clinic to open in Halifax, scheduled for June 1989, abortion has become a more heated topic than ever in Nova Scotia. Canadians have a hard time getting abortions, and hundreds of them, many Maritimers included, travel to Quebec or the States to discontinue unwanted pregnancies.

But since October 1988, there had been an alternative to traditional surgical abortion: the RU 486 abortion pill, which has been available in France for the past six months. In such a short time, the pill is already responsible for

at least one third of all abortions performed in France. This pill causes very little discomfort, and has been proven safe by the ten thousand women who have used it. The pill is still under careful control and can only be prescribed by a doctor, and must be taken under medical supervision, but is quickly replacing surgical abortions.

Why isn't this pill available outside of France? The head of the pharmaceutical company which distributes RU 486 says the opposition is almost entirely due to the American pro-lifers. He says he has not received one letter

of complaint from France, but has met regularly with concerned Americans. And still around the world between two to three thousand women die annually due to unsafe abortions. But due to North American conservative ethics, this simple and inexpensive option will not be made available to women outside of France. The Americans maintain that legalized abortions will lead

to "frivolous sex". So instead we ignore the problem of unwanted children and dangerous, unsafe abortions being practiced everywhere.

North America was once called the New World, a place people looked towards to be free of conservative constraints, yet now we are the ones imposing such conservative constraints. Good luck Henry Morgentaler!

B.Y.O.C. (Bring Your Own Cup)

by CEAG

The use of CFC-free foam cups by Beaver Foods is commendable as an important step in dealing with the serious environmental problem of ozone depletion. But while an urgent problem, protection of the ozone layer is only one of many concerns held by the recently formed Campus Environmental Action Group (CEAG).

The February 16th article "No Need to Ban Beaver" misrepresents the groups rapport with Beaver Foods, one which remains non-adversarial. But more important, it ignores such broader issues as waste generation and environmental quality on Dal campus and elsewhere in general.

For example, two coffee cups per day adds up to 260 over two terms. If these cups are disposable, this is surely unnecessary waste regardless of whether the cups are CFC-laced, paper, or plastic. In fact, a few concerned students have already begun to "lug-their-own-refillable-mug", a practice we plan to advocate on a larger scale this fall.

Through this and other activities, CEAG intends to raise environmental awareness and action at Dalhousie, and in so doing respond broadly to the call for global thinking and local action.

For interested individuals, CEAG meets 5pm most Wednesdays upstairs at 1338 Robie Street.

