

# Supportive and friendly community

- Thought provoking and challenging sermons
- Meditative, varied and uplifting music
- Outreach: Inner city breakfast program
- College and Careers group
- Opportunities to work with young children
- Noontime Bible study
- Traditional and Contemporary worship services.

Rev. John Moses Minister

John Hudson **Director of Music** 11 a.m.

St. Matthew's United Church 1471 Barrington Street (Next to Maritime Mall) 423-9209

STATE CONTRACTOR



Her name Damhnait (pronounced Dav-e-nit) is Gaelic, and means "A Baby Deer (or Fawn)", but she has a roar that better fits a lion. In between sound checks at the Halifax stop on the Kumbaya tour we sat down and talked.

How were you discovered? me.

Shadows Wake Me, was released last February and I've been tour-



# arts & entertainment the Gazette September 26, 1996 **Damhnait Doyle: the Rock's newest sensation**

be in all respects your typical 20 year old. She has worries about money, her job, and her future. But unlike most, Doyle is a musician who has spent the last seven months touring Canada and parts of the United States.

I started singing about two years ago, while I was working at Duckworth's distributions in St. John's (Newfoundland). I was going to Memorial, and this was a summer job in between semesters. One day, Graeme Stairs, who runs my record company, overheard me singing in the office. I played some demos for him, and he said that he was interested in signing

#### Was it really that easy?

Well, it took six months for me to sign a contract with Latitude records, who use EMI Canada for their distribution. My first album,



ing in support of it ever since.

It strikes me that you have a unique sound for a femaleled band. They usually aren't this hard. Was this conscious?

I think that it is sort of a survival thing, because we've been playing a lot of bars, and it was a direction where I realize that I really need to give it all I have in order to get this music across to the people who are sitting there drinking. Do they want to talk, or do they want to listen to me?

I was really interested in your song "Signal Hill" which seemed really atypical in comparison to other songs on the album. How did this come about?

Well, I moved to Toronto while I was writing songs for this album, and I really missed home. I really missed St. John's, because it is a really huge part of who I am. Signal Hill is really a pinnacle for Newfoundland. It's a huge reference point for Newfoundlanders. So I decided that I wanted to write a song about Signal Hill, and it developed in that way. It was really out of a sense of homesickness.

#### ter) while on stage?

I have to. I work so hard, that if I don't have water on hand, then I'll be in really big trouble.

Your single "A List of Things" seems to be doing really well?

Oh yeah, it's been really good to me. It gets a lot of radio play, and the video even made it into the Muchmusic Coca Cola Countdown.

### What's your reaction to video?

I really enjoy it. Like I said "A List of Things" has done really well on Muchmusic. I've done a lot of theatre and acting, so it's a nice way to break through that barrier. It's something I'm comfortable with.

What are your thoughts about tonight?

I am really happy to be doing the Kumbaya tour. It's a really great cause, and I hope that everyone comes out.

Have you done any other charity work?

I've been associated with another AIDS organization called CANFAR, and I donated my services to do a television spot. It was a voice-over and it's currently running in the US and all over Canada.

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HALIFAX

1300 Oxford Street (across from Shirreff Hall) tel: 422-5203; fax: 422-8665; email: fbaphfx@atcon.com Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible Study (7-8 p.m.)

## ALL STUDENTS WELCOME!

**NEW!** College and Careers Group First Meeting: Oct. 5, 2-4 p.m., First Baptist Church For details contact Tim McFarland, Baptist Chaplain for Dalhousie. (tmcfrlnd@atcon.com or 422-5203) Senior Minister - Rev. John Boyd; Associate Minister - Rev. Tim McFarland

Interim Choir Director - Kaye Pottie; Guest Organist - Leon Cole

#### Where is your music going?

In many different directions. None of which that I can really pinpoint right now, because there are so many different things that I want to do.

In the last week you've played virtually every venue that Dalhousie offers: any thoughts?

I just walked in here today, and I remembered that the first trip that I came on with my choir in grade eleven - we played this room (the Student Union Building's McInnes Room) during a music fest. We played up there (on the stage), and got a standing ovation. It was really awesome.

It just occurred to me, that very few artists will let the audience see them drink (wa-

#### What sort of response did you get in the States?

It was really great. It was amazing. They didn't have a clue who I was and they totally related to the music. I was touring with the Barenaked Ladies, and because of the response I received I can now afford to buy some Kraft Dinner.

I'm the same age as you, and I can't imagine being in your seat right now. The world must look so small?

The grass always looks greener on the other side. You know, I love what I do, it's incredible. I'm so fortunate to be where I am. But it's a lot of work.