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Musician Celebrates Album with a Release Party

By Regina Young

Christy Jefferson's hardest performance was never in a jam-packed venue. It wasn't under streaming lights on stage in front of fans that were waiting for Jefferson to play the favorite "cult Christy classic" song "Speedy."

Her hardest performance came in the most personal and emotional of times – performing her song "Jonathan Waiting" at a funeral.

"People were sobbing and I had to try and be removed enough to not break down but in it enough to express the sentiment," she said of the experience.

But being personal is what Jefferson's music is all about.

The Doylestown Borough resident and musician will feature a collection of reflections in her forthcoming album "when Kisses Take Prisoner." The album will be celebrated with a release party at Wired Gallery and Frame, in Bethlehem, April 8th.

The release party will feature a performance by Jefferson complete with a full back up band in what she describes as a "laid back setting." Doors will open at 7 PM and refreshments will be provided.

Jefferson's album was recorded three times. The first took place in her home-grown studio and was a starting point in which Jefferson "got the bones" of the songs. A second and more in-depth recording took place with Adam Clymer, a friend and band mate of Jefferson's. However, an equipment malfunction led to the destruction of a tape, forcing the singer to record the album for a third time.

During this time, the singer experienced highs and lows that found new life in her lyrics.

"I write what I know," Jefferson said. For instance, the song "Pictures of Faces," draws on the 25-year-old singer's experience of cleaning out her closet before she was married.

"I came across a picture of my mom and dad when they were our age and they had just gotten married, and they were just gazing at each other," she said. "The photo was just capturing their love. It became clear to me that I was part of a cycle. It has all happened before, and it made me have a different level of understanding. In the song, I celebrate that process."

But along with experiencing the joys of family and love, Jefferson also endured setbacks that threatened the progress of her musical career.

In particular, the theft of the instruments, which Jefferson considers the “tools of her trade,” outside CBGB’s in New York City, left the artist questioning the meaning of her career.

“Instruments become really personal because you pour your soul through them,” she said. “I felt like someone took a piece of me.”

However, it was the outpouring of fans and musicians who donated money to help the singer afford new instruments that turned the bleak musical outlook into a positive future.

“The whole experience took me from the lowest of low to the highest of high,” she said of the support. “Everything I’ve had to overcome has made me better.”

Now, the singer hopes to continue that high by sharing her experiences with her fans and concert audiences.

“We’ve been rehearsing now for months,” Jefferson said. “There is just all this excitement. It’s like I have a bottle of soda and we’re shaking it, shaking it, and we’re building up all this energy and we just want to explode into the CD release party.”