

The Keystone – 2/23/06
Kutztown University, Pennsylvania

Christy Jefferson, dining hall superstar

By Krissy Scatton

...Last Wednesday, the KU alumnae, who graduated in 2002 with a Music degree, put on a solid show.

...Jefferson, a folk-pop singer whose whispery soprano voice and piano stylings are reminiscent of Tori Amos and Dar Williams, performed a two-hour set that included tracks off her two albums, *Live from Philly* and a self-titled release, as well as covers of such off-beat classics as “Come On, Eileen.”

The Coopersburg, PA native deftly switched between styles and instruments, from bluesy folk-rock guitar to delicate pop piano ballads, and even threw in some cabaret-esque music, just for fun.

“I like her style,” said Nick Forte, a freshman Music Education major who stopped to listen while leaving the Galleria. “She has good stage presence....”

...Jefferson, who said she has been singing her whole life, performed as if she was playing to a sold-out audience – something she may soon have to get used to. “I’m releasing a new album on April 8 at Wired Gallery and Frame in Bethlehem,” said Jefferson. The album’s release will be followed by a tour in which Jefferson, who performed alone on Wednesday, will be accompanied by a full band.

“I have an extensive week-and-a-half tour in New England scheduled,” Jefferson said. “And I’m planning a tour to Toronto.”

Jefferson has already brought her music to nearby states, including New Jersey, Delaware, and New York, as well as closer to home. This Friday, she will be performing at the Kutztown Tavern from 7 to 11 p.m. But her alma mater always has a special place in Jefferson’s heart.

“I’ve played outside the Dining Hall,” she said, laughing. “I have friends coming tonight and I usually see familiar faces. Every once in awhile my old professors will come by when I’m here.”

Among those who were enjoying the music with their meal was Ryan Farrell, a sophomore Business major. “She’s one of the better people up there,” said Farrell.

Sam Skiles, a sophomore Art Education major agreed, saying, “She’s got a great voice....”

...Offstage...Jefferson has grown accustomed to focusing on more than just music. “At this point I’m doing my own managing, booking, and promoting,” she said. “I’d like to build up a team around me and find a small indie label, one that’s not destroyed by commercialism.”

Ultimately, Jefferson has big plans that will take her far away from KU’s South Dining Hall.

“I want to tour the world and get my songs on TV and in films,” she said.

For Christy Jefferson, her talent and style make boundaries ephemeral and possibilities unlimited. Today, the South Dining Hall. Tomorrow, the world?