

ON THE COVER

Fionna Faulk

Funky, Jazzy, and Smooth

By Sage Satori

Fionna describes her sound as Norah Jones meets Alanis Morissette meets Jewel. She is very captivating. That was apparent when the room fell silent a few verses into her first song. Talking to Fionna is a pleasure; she has such a vivacious personality with an infectious energy and sense of humor. Fairly new to the NEO music scene (2003), Fionna has been playing at open mics, coffee houses, and small venues to show her talents. That has opened up some doors to landing more gigs and selling her new CD "The Stadium of Saints Project".

Around the age of eight Fionna began writing jingles and recording pretend shows with her brother and sister on an old tape recorder. "I also used to play drums for my church" she mentions while reflecting on her early years. Later she wrote songs for her sister who "always had the best, most versatile, outstanding, and flexible voice of the family." That song writing was a great deal different from what she now writes

for herself. "I used to write poppy-sounding R&B tunes for my big sis (a year older than me) but for myself it's more of an acoustic, pop/folk/rock sound." She goes on to say "I keep a lot of things inside but my songs allow me to express how sometimes I won't say I feel."

As often happens on life's road, hanging out with her sister actually led to her introduction to guitar in 2002. "A producer, working with my sister at the time, actually gave me my first acoustic guitar." Fionna shares the story "he let me take it home one random day I joined my sister in the studio to watch them work. I forgot how he tuned it and made up my own tuning, I started to find chords that sounded great and my sister told me to write a song for her to sing. We played it for the producer she was working with the following week and he let me keep the guitar." If you watch Fionna play you will notice something a little unusual, she plays her guitar upside down. She is left-handed and most

people have their guitars restrung to accommodate but Fionna said "No one in the local music shops back in Alliance, Ohio (that's my hometown) would restring the guitar for me. They all said it was too far gone, damaged, and wouldn't work right." That didn't stop her; she just learned the chords upside down.

On the more personal side, Fionna recently graduated from Hiram College, she loves crossword puzzles, taking bubble baths, and she says "I LOOOOOOVE food. I love chicken, soul food, Italian food, sweets and candy are a must, most definitely!" Oh, by the way her name means, fair, or light of skin tone. Pretty name and it fits her well. When asked her goals for the future, Fionna replied "I want to do this full time."

Her next gig is at the Arabica in Aurora (on Rt. 82/West Garfield Rd. in the plaza) on March 25th at 7:00. Next up is at The Sandy Chanty in Geneva-on-the-Lake on April 29th for the Sirens of the Chanty weekend (the last one was so



Photo by Jeffrey Gaab


much fun!). In the meantime, you might catch Fionna at Riders Inn on alternating Tuesdays nights for the Songwriters Showcase. A lot of aspiring and talented musicians frequent this popular gathering spot.

Keep an eye on her website www.fionnafaulk.com or www.myspace.com/fionnafaulk for schedule additions and changes. ▼

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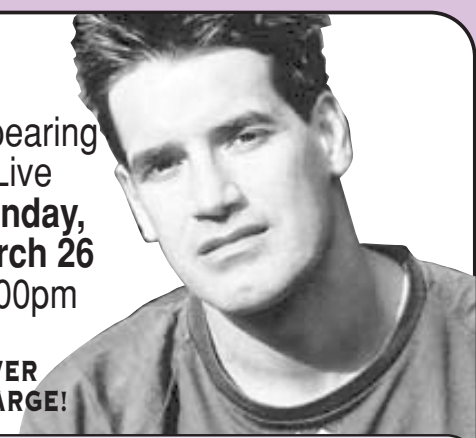
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Sat. 3/18 • "Nite Fly"

Fri. 3/24 • "Disco Inferno"

Sat. 3/25 • "Andy's Last Band"

Sun. 3/26 • "Jackson Rohm"

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