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Joanne (Jo) Wymer (Mariotti)

Year/School:	1985/East
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College Attended:	US Navy / U. of Washington (Seattle)
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Town State, Zip:	Dayton NJ
Country:	US
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Fax:	
Email Address:	hudzmom1@aol.com
WebSite:	www. pnj.adp.com
Date:	2/23/2005

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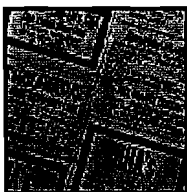
August 15, 2007

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Things look up for lady who sings the blues

Jo Wymer puts her life in song as she pursues success in music biz

BY CLARE MARIE CELANO
Staff Writer



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Jo Wymer

Everyone has a story. Some people write it, others paint it, but Jo Wymer? She sings it - with attitude and soul. Wymer, 40, of Freehold Township, is a blues singer. She and her band are billed as "Blues with Attitude" and anyone hearing her sing needn't ask why.

Being born into a family with a

musical background - her mother was a classical pianist, her brother is a singer and plays bass guitar, and her sister is a singer - it is easy to understand why Wymer began singing so young.

At the age of 6 she joined the choir at her church, St. Philip and St. James, in St. James, Long Island, N.Y., and stayed until she was about 20. She then joined the U.S. Navy and was on active duty for six years, and inactive duty for another six years, finishing her service in 1996.

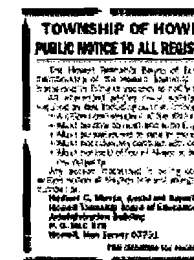
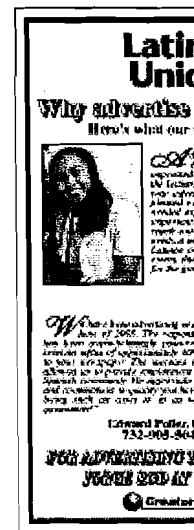
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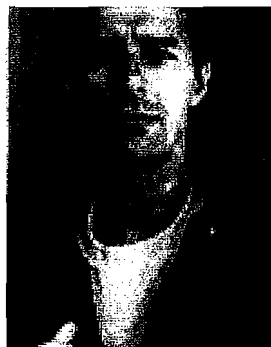
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The Fab Four

(from left to right: Red Molly, Jo Wymer, Chris Dargis, Michael Brett)

my career and resurrecting the Legend. "What can I say...like John Lee Hooker's momma said...The music is in him, it's just got to come out..."

Perhaps his greatest achievement is not in the realm of music but rather his beautiful new daughter. "Nothing can beat fatherhood...I have to use more imagination because I am not living the life I wrote about and described in my songs back then..."

Contact Chris at www.dargisongs.com to check on list of appearances and to book him. His songs will entertain your mind as well as your ears.

Sharing the stage that night at Coffee Blue was another young entertainer Michael Brett, a super writer and performer, destined to come into his own. I have listened to Mike for over a year now and am amazed at how his writing and performing seem to improve with each gig. His style is laced with humor, vivid imagery, especially character development, and catchy tunes.

Mike hails from NYC and was raised in Roosevelt NJ, an area replete with poets, writers, and musicians. While in college, he interned at local radio stations, realizing that he preferred his music to the commercial variety.

His first venture was a six song EP released in 1998 using elements of jazz, folk, and rock. His second effort, Electrophobia, was more subdued, coming closer to Mike's own brand of "rock-folk", a term alluding to Mike's influence by the Beatles rather than folk singers.

Mike has been appearing in numerous venues, including Kenny's Castaways in NYC, Indigo Coffeehouse in Aberdeen, and The Wonderbar and Stone Pony in Asbury. Through the Princeton Songwriters, he has been able to refine his creative skills.

When I interviewed Mike I found him to be as interesting as the people he created for his songs. He was asked to describe his sound and reflect upon his influences. "...

My sound is a mix of everything from rock to jazz to country and folk...my influences include the Beatles, Ella Fitzgerald, David Bowie, Brian Wilson and Paul Simon...another important influence for me was jazz

musician and writer Louise Altman, who was my grade school teacher.

Michael Brett has been an integral part of the local open mic scene, always there to lend support to his fellow musicians. I asked him for his assessment of the current scene. "...I think the open mic scene along the Jersey coast is extraordinarily supportive and a great starting point for anyone who wants to break into the business..."

Mike hopes to put out a new CD by 2006, one that would reflect many genres of music. "My ultimate goal would be to write songs for other artists to include on their cd's...to me it's all about the music."

I have alluded to the characters that are introduced in his songs. They seem to have a life of their own and have somehow transcended the context of the music to evoke smiles from the audience. "Loveable Drunken Uncle Bill" could be a TV sitcom, sort of a cross between a John Candy and WC Fields. The crowd loves it. And of course, there is Grandma, who hates all music that ain't Lawrence Welk. "...one day I was driving her (Mike's real granny) I had rock on the radio and she made her feelings known...a song was born..."

Michael Brett is an original. No axes to grind, just a lot of fun over and over again. Where there's a mic, there's Mike. Contact him at coolunclemike@hotmail.com to obtain info about bookings and appearances.

A young lady that I have had the pleasure to hear in the past few months is Jo Wymer. She is fantastic! Offstage Jo is shy and demure. Put a mic in her hand and she can belt out the blues with the best of them. She reaches the audience with her husky voice, and turns the room into a hurricane zone. She can get down like Joplin or change gears and become lyrical like Lady Day. Jo is energetic but always remains sensitive to her craft.

From her childhood in NYC to her current residence in Freehold, Jo has been an entertainer her entire life. She developed an early interest in music while in grade school and recorded at age 13. As a teen

she travelled with a show band. It was a springboard that would lead her to discover the art of the blues. Jo served in the Navy for 8 years beginning in 1990. When she returned she put music on hold due to family commitments.

I asked Jo why she identifies with the blues. "...The blues speak from the soul, not the heart...and the soul speaks louder and my soul has a lot to say..."

As any listener could easily surmise, her style is heavily influenced by the greats, such as Etta James, La Verne Baker, Ruth Brown and her friend and mentor, Bettye LaVette. Jo describes her sound as soulful, powerful and intense. You got that right!

Jo has dreams that I foresee turning into reality. She wants to be a part of Women That Cook, an all female blues show that features the likes of Koko Taylor and Jennifer Wright among other luminaries. "I see myself writing my own music, recording and keeping it simple...playing the local music scene." I have no doubt that her dreams are only a chorus away.

Jo always remains positive. "In general, the local scene is fabulous here in Jersey...my days of singing in smoke-filled clubs are far and few between, and I like it that way...I think the word needs to be spread on how awesome the music scene is...I have exposed my son to all the kinds of music lately..."

I first met Jo nearly a year ago and I have watched her blossom as a person as well as an artist developing her craft and gaining confidence along the way. She confided to me that when we first met at the Indigo Coffee House she was initially intimidated by me. Why I'll never know, As she stated "...you know the whole Legend thing...but I noticed he (me) has a way of making people feel confident and always gives positive feedback..." It's all about helping each other. As Jake and Elwood said, "Help Ever, Hurt Never" Me scary? Nah

Jo is a pleasure to hear and work with. When she realizes her potential she will rock every house she plays at. Above all, her commitment to her art and her desire

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 Brad Mandigo
 Bob Marriner
 Amy Schindler
 Elliot Stern
 Maire Tashjian
 Troy Topinka
 Mick Walsh
 Jean Wang
 Yining Wang
 Jo Wymer
 James Young

EDUCATION

High School of Performing Arts at Smithtown High School East - St. James, NY
 Julliard School of Music - New York City, NY
 Seattle Conservatory of Music - Seattle, WA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THEATRE

High School of Performing Arts - *Grease / Flower Drum Song / Annie*
 Lincoln Center Theatre (Young Players) - *Barefoot in the Park / South Pacific / My Fair Lady*
 Langhorne Players - *Grapes of Wrath / Othello*
 Action Arts Theatre Group - *America (the unabridged version) / Crimes of the Hee*

BANDS

CC Brandy and Company - Lead Vocal
 Chain Reaction - Lead Vocal
 JoJo Dancer and the Super Suds of Rhythm - Lead Vocal
 United States Navy - All Navy Drill and Choir - Lead Alto / Section Lead
 North East Seattle Musician's Fellowship - Lead Vocal
 Grover Blue - Lead Vocal

VENUES PERFORMED

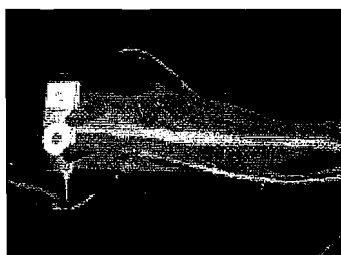
Juilliard Concert Center - New York City, NY
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thanks for your your support!
jess

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Ruby James



Mar 8, 2007 5:23 PM

hey
thanks for being a friend....hope you enjoy the music...

xo
ruby

Jo Wymer ..



Mar 8, 2007 4:07 PM

Greetings from Freehold, NJ
Thanks so much for stopping by to have a look and a listen. Thanks for supporting the tr
Veteran of Desert Storm...had 2 tours in Kuwait...so thanks for the support from both si

Love and Peace,
Jo

Catya Maré

Feb 25, 2007 8:47 AM

Thank so much for your kind comment, Richard!
That's wonderful to hear....
Have a great week ~ Catya