

Allison Iraheta *Just Like You* Album review by Doug Smith

American Idol-love it or hate it-it has done its job: providing a showcase for a number of performers who desire to be successful in the music business. The success rate ranges from the big stars (Carrie Underwood, Daughtry, Kelly Clarkson, etc) to the impending footnotes. Whatever happened to Justin? And the less said about that guy with the Christmas album, the better.

In between are the Idol alumni who are plying their trade; seeing how far the Idol experience will take them. One such veteran is the subject of this issue's review: Allison Iraheta, 2009's top Idol female finisher (fourth overall). Her debut release, *Just Like You*, came out during the winter.

JLY's overall impact is reflected in the lead single, "Friday I'll be Over U". The song's synopsis: boy meets girl-boy cheats-girl starts over. All in less than a week. Within this driving number, and its girl power anthemic "oh yeah!", the heroine experiences the ups and downs of relationships in short order. "Friday" sets the tone for the album. Much of JLY consists of amped up guitar, bass, and percussion machine; and Iraheta in places needed to double track her voice to keep up. But the tempos in the songs are too inconsistent for JLY to be considered a true dance album. Nor does JLY bear any resemblance to bad girl party music, a la Ke\$Ha. A couple repeat spins show this album has a serious tone; with such subject matter as the impersonal nature of

technology ("Robot Love"), and a retelling of the Golden Rule (title track). Serious tone yes, but light years from the sort of overwrought material that (imho) plagued the Shangri-Las at times.

Iraheta certainly is not lacking in the energy, charisma, or talent departments. With this debut album, she though does not yet have a distinctive musical personality. A perfect mentor would be P!nk, who Iraheta can resemble vocally; especially on "Scars". P!nk (aka Alecia Moore) actually contributes song-writing to JLY with the track "No one Else". On this track Iraheta enrolls in the Melissa Etheridge "School of Emoting". Iraheta co-wrote one song for JLY, the closer "You Don't Know Me". So composition is another area which will be interesting to see how Iraheta develops. A host of songwriters contributed to JLY; which may partly explain its overall lack of distinctive personality. "Don't Waste the Pretty" though, is a thoroughly-enjoyable power ballad.

Summary: Sturdy debut from the Idol alumnus. Iraheta seems to have all the ingredients to be a star; feeling her way into the pop/rock mainstream. The teen hopefully just needs some time and seasoning to develop her musical personality and song-writing chops. Rating: 6.5 (out of 10).



KEY NOTES

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JUNE 2010
ISSUE #179
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RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

We made it through another lousy winter and mild spring. Vendor and customer participation continues to thrive. The April show featured three special added attractions: the American Historic Jukebox Society with jukeboxes, the Lancaster County Car Club and Vagabonds Rod and Custom Club with vintage wheels and the US Census Bureau. Yes, they called **us** and said they wanted to be associated with a big event - which we are!

The Mother's Day show was lighter, however seasoned vendors know this and plan accordingly each year. Keeping the show the second Sunday sometimes conflicts with other events, however it provides a consistency factor customers and vendors have come to appreciate over the years.

Derek
B. Derek Shaw
KEY-NOTES Editor
& Communications

KRC INFO LINE
(717) 898-1246
CALL ANYTIME!

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Happy June everyone. We need YOUR help. Our club operates with volunteers, the ones that keep the finances in line, the ones who find places for the show to continue as it has the past 31 years EACH month and the ones that get the word out on what's going on via this very newsletter along with the special features and items we offer from time to time. Now its time to get new blood to step up to the plate with more projects we have in the fold. I would like to see new faces step forward and offer their services, a few hours each month either at the show or behind the scenes. Thanks in advance for your help!

On Friday, May 21st, **Steve Yohe, Dennis Emerick** and I traveled to the studios of WHVR-AM in Hanover to promote the KRC on their daily "Better Living" LOCAL talk show with host Gil Shepper. A big thank you also to Tim Michaels and Dave Cannon who helped make this possible.

Remember, keep searching for those golden greats!
Dave Schmidt
2010 KRC President

Stay Tuned!

TEN, TEN, TEN!

Throughout the years, our club has strived to offer new and different things to supplement our show. The October 10th show promises to be *the biggest, one day additional event we have ever considered pulling off*. Here's a brief synopsis of what will be taking place:

Tommy James **WILL be there** signing his book: "Me, the Mob and the Music". This is an inside look at Roulette Records and the music industry. He was also lead singer of the Shondells who had hits like Mony, Mony, Hanky Panky, Crimson & Clover and I Think We're Alone Now. (See article on page 3.)

Central Pennsylvania music radio air personalities from the 1950's - 80's are being invited for a meet and greet reunion. Current nationally syndicated DJ's Cool Bobby B and Matt the Cat **will be there** too.

Author LinDee Rochelle **will be there** signing her newly released book, BLAST FROM YOUR PAST! Rock-n-Roll Radio DJs Who ROCKED Your World! 1954-1979, Vol. I

Philadelphia's first rock and roll artist, Charlie Gracie **will be there**. (Fabulous, Butterfly, etc.)

Keep Rockin', a national nostalgia magazine, **will be there** to cover the event and to promote their publication. (see article next column)

Shawn Swords, with Character Driven Productions **will be there**. The *Charlie Gracie* biography and the *Wages of Spin* payola scandal documentaries will be shown.

All this will take place in the room across the hall from the entrance to our show. **PLAN TO BE THERE!**

KEEP ROCKIN' ROCKS!

Earlier this year, our club was approached to carry the new publication, *Keep Rockin'*. After paging through a few issues, I knew this is something our members would definitely want to get a hold of.

Keep Rockin' is a 1950's and 60's nostalgia magazine. Music is a focal point, however it is not the only point. Inside the bi-monthly publication you'll find classic cars, vintage advertising, beef cake, pin-ups and much more. If you like hot rods, cruisin', drive-ins, record hops, drag strips, motorcycle races, greasers, car clubs, burgers & malts, the *Keep Rockin'* is a magazine for you.

Each month at the KRC club table, we have copies of the magazine for sale. Cover Price is \$5.95. Show attendee price is \$4.00. KRC Member price is \$4.00! Yet another benefit of KRC membership. Hurry, supplies are limited!

For more info, visit: www.Keeprockinmag.com/



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KRC in 2010

EACH SHOW 9 AM TO 3 PM SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

THE CONTINENTAL INN

FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE, SO TAKE SOME AND SPREAD THE WORD!
ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR WANT LIST ITEMS.
BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS EVERY OTHER SHOW AT 3:30PM,
(DURING THE MONTH THERE IS NO **KEY-NOTES**) PLAN TO BE THERE.

Prestatyn 2010 by Andy Turner

This year I was lucky enough to attend my fifth Prestatyn soul weekender. This year's event was held on March 18th to the 22nd at the Pontin's resort in Prestatyn, Wales.

As always, Prestatyn features five rooms of music, over 100 deejays, and various live acts. There is also a record show and various other vendors selling books, clothing, jewelry, etc. Attendance for the event is around 4,000 people.



William "Smoke" Howard

Friday night in the modern room was the first live show. The live acts were William "Smoke" Howard, Kenny Bobien and Stephanie Cooke. All these artists did a nice set of mostly dance music. Kenny Bobien also did a few songs by Stevie Wonder, Luther Vandross, and Sam

Cooke.

Saturday night in the main room was the big show. The featured artists were the Hesitations, Kenny Hamber, Sidney Barnes, and Mary Love all backed by the Midnight Hour Soul band. Each artist sang four or five songs, and at the end everyone did a big encore.



Kenny Hamber

The last of the live acts featured on Saturday night was Tortured Soul, a three piece band from Brooklyn, New York that plays house music. They played in the modern room for an hour and did a very enjoyable show.

If you're a soul music fan like me, I highly recommend that you try and make it to at least one Prestatyn soul weekender. You won't be sorry.



Why is **Phil Schwartz** and **Dave Schmidt** happy at 11:30 PM? (See article page 3, bottom right column)

KEY NOTES

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EDITOR, GRAPHICS and LAYOUT: **B. Derek Shaw**CONTRIBUTORS: **Steve Yohe, Doug Smith, Andy Turner, B. Derek Shaw**PHOTOS: **Blake Yohe, B. Derek Shaw, Andy Turner, Phil Schwartz, Scott Primeau**

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1516, Lancaster, PA 17608

NEWS/PHOTOS/IDEAS: 329 Rathton Rd., York, PA 17403-3933

bdshaw@lunginfo.org

(Deadline for #180 is July 13th)Names in **bold** type are members of Keystone Record CollectorsA TRIBUTE TO ELLA FITZGERALD
STARRING FREDA PAYNE

A concert review by Steve Yohe

Thirty years ago the Stand-Capitol Performing Arts Center in York PA opened its doors. April 12, 1980, the first performer on the newly renovated stage was Ella Fitzgerald. To commemorate that event this year on April 11th, the venue presented Freda Payne in "A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald." Those in the audience who knew Ms. Payne only for her early 1970's hits, notably "Band of Gold" and "Bring the Boys Home," had to be amazed that those recordings barely scratch the surface (no pun intended) of the depth of her talent.



That talent was recognized early when, beginning at age 13, she won amateur contests, performed on a weekly radio show, and sang radio jingles. After winning *Ted Mack's Amateur Hour*, her career went into high gear at age 17 as she began working with legends such as Pearl Bailey, Lionel Hampton, and Quincy Jones. After her success as a recording artist, her career expanded into theater, culminating in numerous Broadway successes including the Tony Award-winning *Hallelujah Baby*, as well as movie roles.

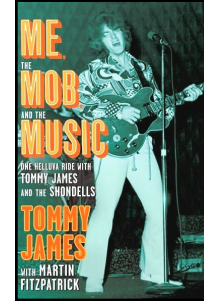
While she is not quite in Ella Fitzgerald's league - and few are - she was not attempting to imitate but rather pay tribute to Ella's undisputed genius. She did that impressively well. With a versatile vocal range and timbre, she easily navigated the subtle nuances of Ella's style in a wide range of material ranging from blues, jazz, and pop standards. Her scat singing, an especially hard-to-emulate staple of Ella's style, was superb. The four-piece jazz combo, led by her accompanist on piano, was a perfect complement to her performing.

As her encore number, Freda did the obligatory reference to her early career - a performance of her biggest hit, "Band of Gold," which (accompanied by a prerecorded backing track) had the crowd on its collective feet with many dancing in the aisles. While effective on one level, the contrast between its commercialism and the tone of the overall show itself was almost too glaring.

A strikingly beautiful woman, she had a pleasing stage presence which is not just an act but a part of her off-stage personality as well. Meeting with her briefly after the show, I was impressed with her charm and manner of conversing: she was fully involved in the conversation that evolved regarding her music, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and the recording industry in general. This is a real person, not just a public persona. I heartily recommend seeing Freda Payne any time she appears in your area. For more information and great photos of her, including pictures of all her album covers, check out her page in Facebook.

IT'S ONLY ROCK AND ROLL
A concert review by Phil Schwartz

The Cleveland Convention Center was home to the 2010 *It's Only Rock and Roll* Benefit for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. The event, on May 15th, was preceded the night before by a special presentation by headliner Tommy James at the Rock Hall. Tommy spoke about his entire career, focusing on his highly rated book *Me, The Mob, and The Music*, and answered questions from the audience. Also in attendance was Mike Vale, original bass player of The Shondells, who was recruited from a Pittsburgh night club while performing with his group, The Raconteurs.



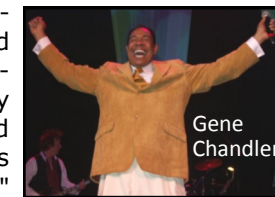
The book is a must read and was recently on a short list published by the *New York Times* of recommended summer reading. As covered elsewhere in this issue, Tommy will be our special guest at our 10-10-10 celebration of Radio DJs.

The concert was emceed by Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame President, and KRC member, **Terry Stewart**. The opening act was Fefe Dobson, who has a very wide vocal range, as well as acting and commercial recognition. Terry Sylvester of The Hollies performed 3 songs, including "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother." Sheila E. gave a great vocal performance, as well as percussion. In a comic moment, she tried to convince Terry to get her inducted into the Hall as the first female drummer. Offstage research determined that Velvet Underground drummer Maureen Tucker already has claimed that distinction.

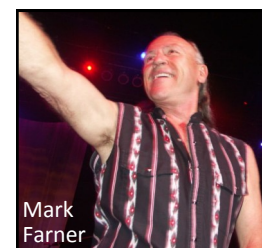


Sheila E. with Terry Stewart

Richie Furay, of Buffalo Springfield & Poco opened the second set, followed by Gene Chandler. Chandler still appears very youthful and energetic, and pleased the large crowd with his biggest sellers "Groovy Situation" and "Duke Of Earl" (for which he appropriately dons the hat and cane).



Gene Chandler



Mark Farner

Mark Farner, who is a good friend to Cleveland and The Rock Hall, sang three of his Grand Funk favorites. "Bad Time", which was, according to radio research, the most programmed single of 1975, went over especially well.

ROCK AND ROLL
HALL OF FAME • MUSEUM

<M.C. Hammer, with his entourage of 16 singers and dancers put on a fantastic show. In addition to his best know hits, he performed a smooth

three-part harmony rendition of The Chi-Lites' "Have You Seen Her".

Tommy James closed the show, exciting the audience with six of his hits, opening with "Draggin' The Line". "Mony" drew the biggest audience reaction, with fans dancing on all hall levels.



Mike Vale (of Raconteurs, Shondells, Hog Heaven), Phil Schwartz and Tommy James at sound check.

It was a very successful fundraiser for the Rock Hall, with some of the money raised going to their unique children's educational programs.

The house band, consisting of Rob Arthur, Liberty DeVitto, Ricky Byrd, Jeff Carlisi, and Jeff Adams, created excitement keeping close to original arrangements.

AMERICA'S FIRST RADIO STATION DONATES
RECORD LIBRARY TO KRC

Earlier this month, KDKA Pittsburgh, donated their remaining music library to the Keystone Record Collectors. The station stopped spinning tunes in 1992 when it went to an all news and talk format. **Dave Schmidt** and **Derek Shaw** spent 16 hours making the trip to and from Pittsburgh to our storage shed in Lancaster.

Decades earlier, the station was one of the major players in the Top 40 scene with air personalities Clark Race Rege Cordic, "Uncle" Ed Schaughency, Jack Bogut, Art Pallan, Big Jack Armstrong, Bob Shannon, Terry McGovern and others.



Attendees to our July 11th **Pennsylvania Music Expo** will have the opportunity to



take home music from the country's oldest radio station, while supporting our club.

"My only intention in giving these away is to keep them out of a dumpster and put them in the hands of people who will love them,!" said Marshall Adams, Director of News/Talk Programming for KDKA-AM.



KRC President **Dave Schmidt** taking a break with KDKA Radio Student Intern, Kim Cochenour, from Slippery Rock University.