



video movie all at the same time.

Soon after I return to Poland I will sing at the European Jazz Festival in Krakow with the greatest European jazz musicians. I am also going on tour in Europe with Austrian group SONGLINES and American/Holland group KLEZMOKUM to promote our new CDs. Of course I would like to come again and play with my Canadian friends for the fantastic Toronto audience.

www.balata.art.pl

John Alcorn

www.johnalcorn.com

TORONTO EXCLUSIVE

You are known to perform at high profile events such as the Toronto Film Festival, the Genie Awards, the Juno and Gemini awards just to name a few. How did you find performing in front of a sold out mainly Polish audience for the benefit of Epilepsy Research?

I've always found the Polish people at once warm, generous and intelligent – with a great love and passion for the creative arts. To sing for the audience at this concert, with their seemingly boundless energy, encouragement and enthusiasm, was an absolute pleasure.

TORONTO EXCLUSIVE

You've received praise from critics and fans alike for your music which is currently getting radio airplay around the world, what would you say the magic ingredient is?

TORONTO EXCLUSIVE

You have toured in the USA and played Toronto in previous years, exposing new audiences to your original improvised jazz style that has elements of folkloric roots from your native town Krakow. Have you ever thought that your music may not be accepted outside Eastern Europe.

MAREK BALATA

I don't think I have, I try to give to a new audience something special and that is a unique base of my heritage. Jazz is constantly growing through the influence and inspiration from others and I hope that I am also an important part of that.

TORONTO EXCLUSIVE

Your stage show is a must see. What more can audiences expect to see at your performances?

MAREK BALATA

Every concert is a new challenge for me not only on musically but, I can offer a multimedia performance with a mixture of singing, dancing and



I don't know if there's much "magic" involved. I can tell you that I choose my repertoire very carefully, searching for songs that have some particular meaning for me – songs through which I can attempt to tell my story, my truth. In performance, I always strive to communicate these thoughts and feelings to the audience, in hopes that they might in turn gain some new insight, relive some long lost memory, or revisit a place of deep emotion.

TORONTO EXCLUSIVE

You have gained numerous awards and recognitions including the 2004 National Jazz Awards for Best Jazz Vocals. Doing any film soon?

I have already done some work in film and television in various capacities, such as actor, singer, musician and composer. It's always an interesting process, although I believe my first love will always be singing before a live audience!



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produces rapid results for both singers and speakers. Master Vocal Coach/In-Studio Vocal Producer/Voice Repair Specialist Diana Yampolsky has been working with beginners and professionals, including some of the biggest names in the Canadian Music Industry, for the last 27 years. Vocal Science is a holistic and scientific approach to voice mechan-

ics that enables all singers to reach their full potential in an extremely short period of time. Her most recent successes include Lukas Rossi, who won the CBS TV Show Rockstar: Supernova, and Alex Norman, whose band IIIScarlett recently signed with Sony-BMG. Her audacious claim to fame is Beginner to Pro Singer in 10 hours or less guaranteed!

Moreover, in the last several years Ms. Yampolsky has been offering a special 4 to 5 day Vocal Science Immersion course for people from other cities, provinces and countries. Recently, she has started to offer the same course for people in Toronto and its suburbs. In addition to being a World renowned Master Vocal Coach, Ms. Yampolsky also offers a unique Non-Surgical Approach to Voice Repair for people that have damaged their voice and who are looking for an alternative to an invasive operation. She also provides care for people with post-surgical trauma.

Ms Yampolsky has been a contributor to Canadian Musician magazine for over 17 years. In 2001 Diana released her first book, Vocal Science – Flight to the Universe (pub. by Mayfair Music Publications), an Inspirational, Revolutionary and Highly Educational Guide for Singers. She has been a featured speaker at prominent Music Conferences and seminars and has been featured in major publications, such as the Toronto Star, National Post and many others, as well as profiled on numerous radio and television stations. Some time ago, Diana established a newly found sister company to the Royans School, Royans Universe Records.

She is also the President of her management company, 4 a.m. Talent Development and Artist Management Group Inc. www.vocalscience.com

Anthony Wal (Montreal): Reaching out!

by Michael Avijit

Quote: *"There are many messages that I want to get across to people. But, there is one that stands out the most – keep music and passion alive."*

Listening to Anthony Wal you feel yourself transported to a small, cozy indoor gig, as you nod your head in time to the groove of the song; speaking to Anthony Wal you feel the warmth of an honest musician with a passion for his art. His music is simple yet it instantly grabs you with its energy. His easy-going style that is powered by some clean acoustic guitar strumming and bound by his crisp voice is a blend of pop, rock and alternative. The songs have a feel good factor that is reminiscent of such bands as Goo Goo Dolls, Counting Crows and 3 Doors Down.

When he plays live he loves performing solo so that he can connect with his audience personally. "I love the idea of doing live acoustic shows and conveying my thoughts and feelings through music. I especially get a kick out of the way others absorb my 'live-

wire' personality" he says. He's not closed to the idea of a proper concert with a band though, and he mentions that "In the near future, my artist buddies and I will most probably get together to bring full band performances to larger venues for those who love to listen to 'full live band' shows."

One of the reasons why his songs are so accessible is the simplicity of their themes and their heartfelt lyrics. His songs like "Miss You" and "Kiss in Rome" are easy to identify with because they are based on situations that we all find ourselves in.

For Anthony it is not about the moolah, or becoming an a-list celeb, but about letting out his inner emotions through his music. And if fame comes by his way, then of course he's ready to grab it, hoping that through his success he will be able to give something back to those less fortunate.

www.anthonyswalmusic.com
www.myspace.com/anthonywal



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