

## STREET SCENE

## Grammy-winner Alanis Morissette happy, peaceful

Wearing a red shirt, deep blue denim jeans and sitting cross-legged on the floor, Alanis Morissette confessed she's relieved that the loneliness has lifted.

"It feels heartening," Morissette said Wednesday, March 10, about her fans' deep understanding of her music. "I love that. When I write about my own experiences, especially when 'Jagged Little Pill' first came out and people related to it, it was comforting because a lot of times I felt like I was going through what I was going through on my own. It was very isolating. To realize I wasn't alone, it was beautiful."

Morissette held court with a small group of her fans who won passes to a "Town Hall" meeting sponsored by WXDG-FM (105.1) "The Edge," held hours before her show with Garbage at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Fans were chosen based on questions they would like to ask Morissette.

One of those listeners was Sandy Robinson, 36, of Farmington Hills. She wanted to know if Morissette, whose "Jagged Little Pill" spoke bitterly of relationships, believes in soul mates. Prior to meeting Morissette, Robinson was curious to see how she treated fans.

"I want to see how she presents herself in front of a bunch of regular people," she said.

During the "Town Hall," the diminutive Morissette came across as spiritual and pensive yet slightly nervous.

Multiple Grammy winner Morissette, whose enjoying success with her sophomore album

"Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie" (Maverick), has been involved in the arts since she was 7, the age during which she took her first dance lesson.

"When I was little I really loved dancing. I started dancing when I was 7. My first dance class I had a broken arm, I just went in. I was really scared, but I loved it."

She moved on to songwriting at age 9, seeing it as the best way for her to express herself. Her early inspirations, as a child growing up in Europe and Canada, were "anything my father and mother were listening to" including ABBA, Bob Dylan and Carole King.

"When I was younger I remember driving in the backseat in the car with my family and hearing her voice and just really connecting with her."

As she grew older, she read books about psychology and then showed reading for fear of being influenced.

"I love writing probably more than I like reading other people's art. Some of the reasons for that may be that I don't want to be overly influenced perhaps and when I'm inspired I need to get it out of my system and I probably would watch more films before I would read a poetry book I think."

Leonard Cohen, I think is amazing. Joni Mitchell, after "Jagged Little Pill" I started reading her lyrics," she said of her platinum-selling debut.

Besides reading Mitchell's lyrics, Morissette indulges in snowboarding and yoga.

"Snowboarding" is a very

humbling experience especially when I was first starting to learn. It reduced me to being an 11-year-old again and allowing myself to not know what I was doing and to keep conceptually and literally falling, and just very free and zen. Just being up in the mountains there's so much clarity and fresh air and snow."

Clarity is what's important to Morissette nowadays. After the rigors of touring in support of "Jagged Little Pill," Morissette skipped the Grammy Awards and went to India to learn yoga.

"I stopped thinking, which is a big one because there's always been a lot of kinetic energy around all the time and a lot of movement. For the first time ever when I stopped after the last tour, and went to India and learned a bit of yoga I stopped for the first time in my life and was able to be still and connect with who I believe God was and connect to friends and family in a way that I never have been able to before. Yoga was just a part of it for me to be in my body and see it as the instrument that it is."

## Boredom setting in?

Sitting around doing consecutive interviews can get old pretty quickly. To ease the boredom, Silverchair drummer Ben Gillies is all for getting a laugh - even at a writer's expense. Gillies answers the phone and begins chatting about the previous night's show in an accent that's a strange amalgamation of Australian, English and Dialect.

"I'm only joking. That's not my accent," Gillies said.

On Tuesday, the once-teen phenom Silverchair released its third album "Neon Ballroom" which has already spawned the obvious 1999 hit, the Def Leppardesque, yet hipper, "Anthem for the Year 2000."

Guesting on the song "Emotion Sickness" is David Helfgott, the pianist who inspired the Oscar Award-winning film "Shine" and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. He described Helfgott as "nice" and "affectionate."

"Daniel" (Johns, guitarist/singer) wanted him on the song. He really wanted a manic piano player. I think we all just kind of decided that David Helfgott was the best guy for the job," said Gillies who said he falls asleep every time he tries to watch "Shine."

Already bored with the interview, Gillies is surfing the net. He tries to persuade a reporter to check out a Web page but doesn't offer any information except for the address. Later, it reveals cartoon characters doing what comes naturally, generally in a "not so fricking funny."

Silverchair and Lit perform Friday, March 19, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. The show is sold out. For more information, call (313) 961-MEET or visit www.961meet.com. Silverchair's Web site is www.silverchair.com.

## Joy and pain

Frat party heroes Rob Base and DJ E-Z Rock return to the Detroit area on Friday with a full arsenal of hits including "Joy and Pain" and "It Takes Two."



Anthem: Australia's Silverchair - from left, drummer Ben Gillies, bassist Chris Joannou, and vocalist/guitarist Daniel Johns.

and a new single.

"We do have a new single that we pressed up ourselves and put out that we probably will be performing that night," DJ E-Z Rock said of "Ready to Party."

A new album is in the works with a European producer, but it may see the light of day in the United States "eventually."

"Ready to Party" carries the same feelgood mentality of the rap duo's early hits.

"We still party. It's still the same party feel."

Rob Base and DJ E-Z Rock perform at 11 p.m. Friday, March 19, at La Boom, 1172 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. Tickets are \$10 in advance. For more information, call (248) 926-9960 or (248) 645-6666.

Christina Fuoco is the pop music reporter for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have a question or comment for her, you can leave her a message at (734) 953-2047, mailbox No. 2130, or write to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or cfuoco@ec.homecomm.net.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, March 19

**"KING OF KINGS"**  
Animated musical telling of the story of the patient school teacher and the overbearing King of Kings. Stars the voices of Miranda Richardson, Ian Richardson, and Daryl Hammond.

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"monster" of Lucky Duck Lake and his burning desire to take Patti Mayonnaise to the school dance.

**"ED TV"**  
Film about a video store clerk who agrees to be filmed all day, every day, by a 24-hour cable network. Stars Jenna Elfman, Woody Harrelson, Ellen DeGeneres, Elizabeth Hurley.

**"THE MOD SQUAD"**  
A feature film version of the hit TV series about three rehabilitated juvenile delinquents who become undercover cops. Claire Danes.

**"THE HARMONISTS"**  
The story of the rise and fall of the legendary Berlin ensemble The Comedian Harmonists, who at the end of the 1920s began an international career which, only a few years later, fell victim to racial Nazi politics.

Scheduled to open Wednesday, March 31

**"THE MATRIX"**  
Science fiction tale about a society that lives to unknowingly provide energy for an artificial intelligence known as the Matrix until a few break free and set out to make changes. Stars Keanu Reeves.

**"A WALK ON THE MOON"**  
A provocative and poignant romantic comedy about one New York housewife's personal sexual revolution during the summer of 1969.

## WHAT'S EVERYBODY LAUGHING AT?

NEW YORK TIMES "FUNNY MOVIE" "ONE FUNNY MOVE" "CHICAGO TRIBUNE" "AT TOWN SQUARE" "SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE" "FUNNY AND EXTREMELY SATISFYING" "FOX-TV" "DROP DEAD FUNNY"

Robert De Niro Billy Crystal

## analyze this

AMC AMERICANA WEST now showing! AMC BEL AIR 10 AMC SOUTHFIELD 20  
AMC LAUREL PARK 10 AMC WONDERLAND 20 BEACON EAST 20  
AMC STERLING CITY 10 AMC NOVOTOWN CTR. 20 MTH COMMERCIAL 20  
BIRMINGHAM B. 20 SHOWCASE 20 STAR GRATITUDE 20  
SHOWCASE 20 STAR JOHN R. 20 STAR LINCOLN PARK 20  
STAR SOUTHFIELD 20 STAR ROCHESTER 20

"A NAIL-BITING, RIVETING, TENSION-BUILDING SCENARIO. Clint Eastwood and James Woods are terrific together - sparks fly!" -Julius Peimer, WKDM

Starts Friday at these theatres

Clint Eastwood True Crime

Starts Friday at these theatres

AMC AMERICANA WEST	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC LIVONIA 20
AMC SOUTHFIELD 20	AMC WONDERLAND 20	BEACON EAST 20
BIRMINGHAM B.	CCC NOVOTOWN CTR.	MTH COMMERCIAL 20
QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE 20	STAR GRATITUDE 20
SHOWCASE 20	STAR JOHN R. 20	STAR LINCOLN PARK 20
STAR GRATITUDE 20	STAR SOUTHFIELD 20	STAR ROCHESTER 20

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STAR GRATITUDE 10  
STAR JOHN R. 10  
STAR LINCOLN PARK 10  
STAR SOUTHFIELD 10  
STAR ROCHESTER 10

You will love every moment of 'The King and I'. It's bewitchingly adorable, wondrously embraceable and humorously contagious!

A grand time for your kids.

THE KING AND I

Starts Friday at these theatres

AMC AMERICANA WEST	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC LIVONIA 20
AMC SOUTHFIELD 20	AMC WONDERLAND 20	BEACON EAST 20
BIRMINGHAM B.	CCC NOVOTOWN CTR.	MTH COMMERCIAL 20
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Starts Friday at these theatres

AMC AMERICANA WEST	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC LIVONIA 20
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