

Laura Vecchione hits "Deeper Waters"

Local artist Laura Vecchione is keeping herself busy on the Somerville scene. She will be performing at The SkyBar June 22 in a farewell evening for Jason Fickel. The show will also feature Laura Brereton, Jim Ricciurri and Fickel himself.

She will also be playing at The Burren June 25 at 8 p.m., opening for Carrie Cheron's CD Release Party. And she is also working on an her new CD, "Deeper Waters," set for a Fall 2006 release.

Vecchione said she cannot remember a time when she did not

Then I go to the piano or the guitar and figure out what the chords should be."

That latter part, she said, can be frustrating.

"I havent grown up playing an instrument and it's not second nature to me, but I use my ears to guesstimate. Motion also helps - walking, and driving, and riding the subway, these are all conducive to writing for me," she said. "And I still use a hand held tape recorder to sing ideas into. I'm not ready for the digital age, although I did just record a CD."

If you listen carefully to her al-



"Deeper Waters" will be available in fall 2006 through CDBaby.com

the tone and control she exhibits. On the 10 song CD, her vocals are quick and agile in "Jane" and "Fool's Gold," num-

ing and thoughtful title track. Vecchione said she came to Massachusetts to go to music school. "I had already graduated

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sing. Her first memory of performing was when she was about five years old.

"I was standing outside selling lemonade with my sister and the neighborhood kids in Ardsley, New York. There was an older girl and her friend, who used to buy our lemonade only if I sang," Vecchione said. "I didn't realize I was using my young talent for commercial purposes."

Vecchione said her creative process is a natural one.

"My best songs start with a feeling. Most of them come to me through singing and through melodic and rhythmic lines. Lyrics and melody often come at the same time, or fragments of each that I have to put together.

bum's title song (and if you did your high school reading, you'll hear an allusion to F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby."

Vecchione said, "It has the imagery of Gatsby living in his mansion on the water, but what he's based his life on, and what he's attracted to in womanhood, is so shallow and surface, he misses the true depth and essence of the ocean."

Vecchione said, "The 'Deeper Waters' part is just saying, wake up to life - deeper waters flow beneath you ocean view."

Resonance is what I noticed most about Vecchione's voice, whether she sings high and a little reedy or low and throaty. Her range is also remarkable for

bers one and two.

"When the Fire's Gone," begins with a satiny piano intro as Vecchione starts the verse gently, with aching longing and then builds with a subtle crescendo into a sonorous, still soft, cry at the chorus. The guitar solo drips poignant, sliding notes into the swirling sad tide of the song. It ends with a light percussion pattern, evoking raindrops or tears.

"Breaking Heart in NYC" is a slow vamp, including what at first sounds like dobro and then well-placed horn and slide guitar interplay for a denser feel.

"Penelope" and "Angel in the Devil," are tranquil ballads. These are followed by the puls-

and received a Masters in Education in New York. But I wasn't singing to the capacity that I wanted to, and felt that Berklee [School of Music in Boston] was the place to immerse myself in music." She now recalls a teacher at Berklee saying, "It'll take you about a year out of Berklee before you find your own voice." Vecchione said it was "one of the realest things I heard there in terms of life experience. Years later, I'm still finding my voice... but it's been a fruitful trip."

"Deeper Waters" will be available initially through CD Baby and there will be a link to that on Vecchione's Web site, www.lauravecchione.com.



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