



# Chiem's Corner MUSIC REVIEWS & EVENTS

Local artist Michael Jullian plays at Club Passim July 5 in Cambridge at an all-ages show with Somerville artists Jesse Dee and Hugh McGowan. Jullian was also featured with Mike Hastings at The Singer Song-writer Series, hosted by Danielle Miraglia, at The Burden Friday. Jullian released "Arrival" in 2004. He not only produced and recorded his songs but also played every instrument—guitar, piano, bass, percussion, keyboards and more. Most striking on the eight-song CD are the textured and infectious "Lifeline," "sailor" where subtle instrumental layers accompany an interesting message and "man I've become" where the sheer groove-ness of the piano and haunting vocals in the intro, topped with a tight chorus that smoothes out again into the more relaxed verses that are yet still taut. Jullian said "remember what Bob said" is his only intended political piece on the CD — "Now he [Bob Marley] is past us and a lot of people missed what he said — as the song goes, there is no reason for bloodshed." Jullian's wife, Amy Catherine Carreras, a pro-

## Michael Jullian Moving forward with "Revelation"



*Michael Jullian and his daughter Sophia Carreras*



fessional photographer, provided the pictures for the album.

Also around the same time as "Arrival," Jullian released "Cover Me: Vol. I." It includes his versions of tunes from Dave Matthews, Rod Stewart and the Beatles, among others. Jullian said "I picked songs that made me better musically." He said he plans to have a "Cover Me: Vol. II" released sometime next year. "Revelation" is one of Jullian's new original tunes, which will be part of an upcoming album. Jullian said, "Since Arrival, my work has become more clairvoyant and less rooty — the lyrics are more direct and the music reflects that element."

"The melody drives first — usually I construct that on the piano or the guitar, and sometimes the

bass. I sing or phrase lyrics that come to mind so that I can follow where the song is traveling. The melodies may be working in my head for a couple of weeks to a couple of months. It becomes a cloth—something familiar through the emotion in it and the melody gets told what the song will be," Jullian said.

Jullian's first instrument was the saxophone, which he played from ages 10-17. In between, he learned guitar and piano. Jullian said he learns much from playing music with his daughter, Sophia Carreras ("Sophia"), age 14. At that tender age, Sophia, who plays guitar and piano, has already performed at the All Asia in Cambridge with Jesse Dee. Jullian said "She has a great sense of

time and intuition — it is like a new universe. Also, I remember when she was small enough to sit in my guitar case. It can be heavy at times to hear her music, which may be crying out to Amy and I in a lot of ways. The best part, though, is tapping into her natural talent — how to get naked up there on the stage and really show your true emotion." These days, Jullian said, "I describe my music as 'unfound.' I am starting to bridge some focus — I always wanted to create a powerful pop rock, eclectic acoustic, electric recording. I've got some energies to release and am seeking an adrenalized opportunity to move naturally in that direction."