

MICHAEL EÖTVÖS

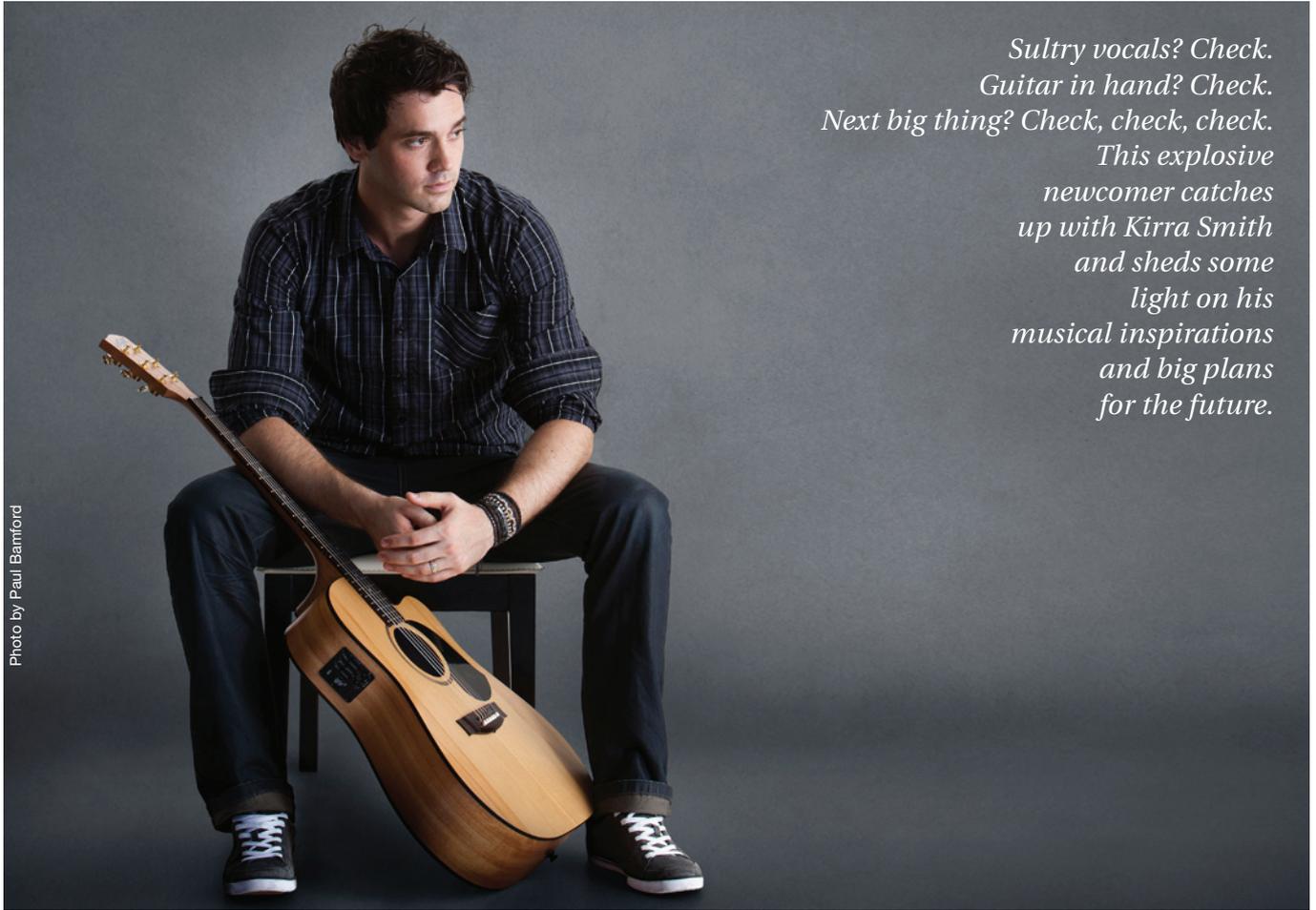


Photo by Paul Bamford

*Sultry vocals? Check.
Guitar in hand? Check.
Next big thing? Check, check, check.
This explosive
newcomer catches
up with Kirra Smith
and sheds some
light on his
musical inspirations
and big plans
for the future.*

You began studying music at a young age, how did you know this was what you wanted to pursue? Music is like breathing for me, I find so much peace in it and I just thrive off it. I grew up in a musical family, my dad studied music in Hungary and went on to perform in many big shows with Frank Sinatra among others and Mum is a concert pianist. Playing and performing has always been in my family, I couldn't imagine ever doing anything else. I grew up playing piano and mum made me do choir, which I hated when I was young. I quit piano in grade 4 and started playing drums which I pursued all the way until after high school when I began to teach. Around this time, I stumbled upon a guitar and discovered I had so much passion for it after learning my first song and singing along.

Who are your major musical influences? John Mayer mostly, he inspires me so much with his lyrics and his playing style. I love Dave Mathews Band also. I still remember the first song I ever learnt - Black Bird by the Beatles, still one of my all time favourites.

What's your career highlight thus far? I was so excited when I got to play a support act for Diesel and Phil Emanuel at the Home Grown in the Valley Festival in 2008, that was a big thing for me. About a year ago I met a musician by the name of Chris Hutchison who asked me to jam one day, little did I know how amazing he was and how much I would learn from him. We now play duo's and are in a band together, performing mainly at Billy's Beachouse.

Tell GCM readers something they don't know about you? I'm a devoted Christian, I love God and I thank him so much for the gifts he has blessed me with, I want to use them for him. I'm married to the most amazing woman I could ever imagine being with, she is my inspiration.

You're a tutor at Trinity Lutheran College, what is your favourite thing about teaching music? I love seeing kids grow in their musical ability and being a part of the process. It's wonderful to be able to help someone younger that could potentially be a great musician.

Where do you hope your career to be within the next 5 years? I would love to have recorded an album and released it by then. I would also love to be doing some shows around the coast and have people coming especially to hear my music.

What kind of music do you enjoy listening to? I grew up only being allowed to listen to jazz and classical music, when I hit high school everyone was listening to pop rock and all sorts of music I'd never really heard of. Once I did my first gig I only knew mostly John Mayer songs but now I know so many more. I love listening to mostly pop rock and also love blues.

Do you have plans for releasing any album anytime soon? Yes, it's been an ongoing occurrence for the last year or two. I've started recording but it hasn't come through for me just yet. Hopefully it will happen very soon!

What's next for you? I have really been enjoying performing solo, with Chris and in a band, I just love to play and sing, it makes me so happy. I really want to try and get into some bigger places to perform, Twin Towns was great, can't wait to play there again. Anywhere is great where there are people that want to listen to music as much as I want to play it.

To learn more about Michael visit michaeleotvos.com or email info@michaeleotvos.com.