

MOM AS FOLK SINGER ?

What if your mother was a songwriter, and took a memo from your school about the dress code and turned it into a “found art” piece of satirical folk music? If your mom’s Kim Buchanan, way cool!

Kim Buchanan’s second album, “Illusions,” displays the sound of an artist who knows where she wants to go with her music. Returning to writing music after taking time off to raise her children, Kim brings together a mix of excellent songwriting with perfect choices in the co-musicians that perform with her on this album: percussionist Patrick-Jubal Creech (Jubal), violinist Michael Hus, and special guests Robin Cape, Scott Ainslie, and Casey Buchanan.

The album itself is a remarkable reflection of Kim’s “inner personal relationship with music.” This relationship, however, is not haphazardly achieved. Having spent 12 years playing rock music, only to be interrupted by her devotion to raising her children, Kim picked up the acoustic guitar about six years ago. From this new experience came a style that has become well known in the North Carolina Triangle region. Her second album shows the maturity she has achieved dealing with production issues. In fact, the album was produced in her home, though the listener will be impressed with the quality of the production.

“Illusions” represents the tales of life that move Kim to write. Songs like “Borderline Minds” and “High Anxiety” challenge the listener with their provocative lyrics about life’s frustrations, yet with a tender and cohesive sound that uniquely identifies Kim’s music. Adding cover songs “White Rabbit” (in a very interesting arrangement) and “While My Guitar Gently Weeps,” Kim brings familiarity to her audiences but also an attitude that is almost rebellious, focusing upon the lack of spirituality of modern living. Almost like a perfect intermission in this engaging musical production, “Dress Code” is a humorous satirical jab at the often hypocritical nature of local school policy.

The Room picked “See Me” for its sampler CD because we feel that this song reflects the multi-faceted inspiration, direction and skill that Kim possesses.



Throughout the album, Kim’s rich vocals bring together a sound that raises images of her sitting on her back porch, her voice echoing off the lush hills of the countryside around her. Definitely, her music can best be appreciated by hearing her on the back porch,....patio,.....well, most anywhere.

But then, Kim is an audience pleaser. Whether performing with her full complement of fellow artists, or playing duo or solo, Kim brings her music to life with her literal bare feet (she says that she draws energy from the acoustical vibrations of the bare ground while she is performing) and acoustical precision. No doubt, Kim’s roots are deep and rich.

