



The New Roxette

www.theNewRoxette.com

Meets SIAN CROSS

Hi Sian, thank you for taking the time to chat to The New Roxette.

Please can you sum up in a few words who is Sian Cross?

I am a singer songwriter born in the West Country..... Weston Super Mare to be specific! I create music with my amazing 5 piece band, but can also be found doing the odd acoustic gig around London. I write all my own music and love to dance!

Please tell our readers what you/your band have been up to recently?

*I have spent the last year writing and recording for my debut EP... While doing this I have also managed to put together my own band, something I have wanted for a while... We recently brought the finishing touches to our little family and are now back out gigging in and around London. My Debut EP '**Leap Year**' was launched on 29th February.*

What have you got planned for the rest of the year (e.g. 2012/2013)?

We will be releasing tracks from the EP throughout the year and are writing new ones along the way... We are back in the studio and intend to release an album sometime next year. We have several festival gigs this year and are looking forward to playing some new material to some new faces outside London... and in the sun!

You are performing at The Aylesbury Festival Weekender this summer, how do you feel about being invited to take part in this fantastic free annual event, and what can the audience expect from your set if they've not seen/heard of you before?

We are so excited to be playing at The Aylesbury Festival Weekender. We have a few festivals this year and Aylesbury will be our last one so we intend to finish our festival season with a bang! I will be headlining the acoustic stage, which I am massively excited about!

It will be nice to strip the songs back to their original form... I always like to do this now and again because I think it really helps you to expose the song in all its glory and moves your focus to the lyrics and the meaning behind them. I tend to find the audience respond well when we do this, there are sometimes a few tears. But don't worry its not all sorrow and sadness, so be sure to have your dancing shoes on as well!

What music are you inspired by?

I love all genres of music. I was brought up on music from Stevie Wonder, Whitney Houston and Aretha Franklin to Pink Floyd to The carpenters to Michael Bolton and Celine Dion to Mike and the Mechanics the list goes on... I have a background in Gospel music, I was in various gospel choirs from the age of 12 but also trained in

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classical... More recently I am loving Jessie J, Florence and the Machine, Laura Marling, James Morrison, Plan B and of course Adele.

How would you describe your music?

*I hate to be pigeon holed into a box that says I can only do this Genre of music but equally I understand that I need to do this to establish an identity in the music industry so I try to be really sneaky and get as many genres into a song as possible. From soulful melodies, to a rock guitar line with a heavy dub step beat, some old school Hammond on keys and a dirty bass-line to finish and you have our sound. Or as my manager likes to call it "**pop rock with a whole lot of soul**".*

How do you go about writing a song?

I write a lot of my material on my Bicycle... I cycle everywhere so anytime I am on there I am thinking of hook lines and lyrics... I have been caught out at the lights a few times, singing my little heart out, which can be a bit embarrassing!

What has been your most memorable moment so far?

My most memorable would have to be the EP launch! We rehearsed for a long time for this. We had everything from backing singers to backing dancers to fancy lighting and even our own sound engineer! It was epic! I put my dancing shoes back on for the first time in 4 years and I was absolutely poohing myself but it was so much fun and I remember coming off stage and wanting to get straight back on.

We had a little after party at a club in Chelsea and the DJ played 'What if maybe' one of the tracks off our EP... Everyone hit the dance floor... that was a pretty special moment!

Please tell us something SECRET about you, which you don't normally get to talk about in an interview!?

Secrets...? ummm... I don't tend to have many secrets as I am rubbish at keeping them! Well, I have recently been asked to write a song for a film... but I can't say any more than that at the mo!

When you're not performing live yourself, do you actually get much time to see other bands or artists perform? If so, (besides yourselves), is there anyone you can recommend our readers should also check out?

*I always try to go and see as many bands as possible. It can be tricky as generally I am pretty busy, but I would say... definitely check out **Alice Gold**, I saw her at the Lexington and she was amazing! Another guy who totally blows my mind every time I see him perform is **Randolph Matthews**; He has a totally unique sound, he will often make up songs on stage and has a totally amazing voice, go see him live!*

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Do you have any celebrity friends/fans?

I have performed with and met a few famous people at gigs in London but to go so far as to say they are friends or fans would be untrue! (unless they secretly follow me online!)

Jessie J once told me I had an amazing voice, so that was a pretty big deal coming from her... what a voice!

And finally, what is the best website address for your band, so our readers can join your mailing list etc?

www.siancross.co.uk

...you can join the mailing list, send me a comment, have a read of my blog or just browse the music and videos... Links to twitter and facebook etc are all on there too.

Thanks once again for chatting to **The New Roxette**, and we look forward to seeing you perform live on **Sunday 22 July (2.30pm)**, at the Aylesbury Festival Weekender.

