

## Profile

## Lucie Blue Tremblay Performs in Vermont

by Miki Thomas

There were many of us in the Burlington community who have been waiting with baited breath for an area appearance of Lucie Blue Tremblay, among the latest acquisitions on Olivia Records' roster of women's music artists. Lucie lives only two hours away in Montreal, so it was only natural to expect that she would pay us a visit.

However, according to her, the most time she ever spent in Vermont was a stop at the Horn of the Moon Cafe in Montpelier after a disastrous trip to Provincetown where she and her companion were robbed. At the cafe they were helped by two women who gave them five dollars and a couple of cups of coffee.

That experience gave Lucie a favorable impression of Vermont and its people, so she was just as anxious to play here as we were to have her come.

Her concert, held at the First Methodist Church in Burlington, was worth the wait. Despite having her wisdom teeth pulled just days before, she was in good spirits and, most importantly, in good voice.

Tremblay opened the concert with a song from her first album, her voice carrying well within the church. Her repertoire features songs sung in both French and English, and though the audience was composed mostly of anglophones, her French songs did not go over anyone's head. It is to Tremblay's credit that she is so easily able to transcend language lines and to tap into her audience's emotions through songs of love and pride.

Lucie had a lively way as she talked with the audience as well. She introduced "Tour Song" with a few examples of what constitutes a "tour disaster," such as bad weather. Even her "Voix d'Enfant," a song

about incest, featured a few asides about the fact that incest is not something that comes up in ordinary conversation.

Another song about a relationship gone sour had such a buildup from Lucie that when she started to sing the first line ("you are guilty...") the audience laughed out loud.

What was most refreshing about the concert was that Lucie was quite open about her sexuality. There were none of the double entendres or asides that often leave an audience wondering. She was as open in life as she is in her songs.

Indeed, to raise money for her next album, she is selling what she calls a "coming out kit," a cassette single featuring a song about coming out and being oneself and an accompanying card with an explanation about the song for anyone receiving the tape.

The future looks bright for Lucie Blue Tremblay. Her album "Tendresse" is getting major distribution in her native Canada, and "Absence" is slated to be the first single off the album. An accompanying video is also in the works.

In the meantime, Tremblay will be

making the round of women's music festivals this coming summer. At the end of this particular concert, she mentioned that perhaps next time she would come with a band to back her up. Given this performance, though, she has proven that she herself is more than enough.



*Lucie Blue Tremblay, less her wisdom teeth, proves that she still has a winning smile as she pauses for our OITM photographer at her recent concert.*



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