

**The Washington Post
Arlington/Alexandria Edition
LIVE!
by: Marianne Meyer**

Thursday, February 6, 2003; Page VA09

§ **Who:** Rubin Kincaid, Jessi Canning
§ **When:** 9:30pm, Saturday
§ **Where:** Luna Park Grille, Arlington

A recent issue of Rolling Stone, dedicated to women in rock, drew fire for its emphasis on pop babes with great bellies, but little experience in playing or songwriting. Should the magazine choose to make amends, it couldn't do much better than these two local acts: singer-songwriter Jessi Canning and the female-fronted quartet Rubin Kincaid. Both create catchy alternative pop.

As a member of the pop-rock quintet Vapor, Jessi Canning spent a little more than two years performing, writing and acting as a tireless cheerleader for local talent. She appeared in, and often organized, the songwriter's showcase series at Vienna's Jammin' Java coffee house. Now a solo act, Canning signed with indie Yawn Records late last year and plans to release her first full-length CD, "A Little Mint," this year. You can get a taste of her sound -- she calls it "sparkle pop" (think Lisa Loeb) -- at www.yawnrecords.com. ...

**The Washington Post,
Fairfax Edition ~ Dec 13, 2001
by: Marianne Meyer**

LIVE!

Thursday, December 13, 2001; Page VA23

**The Santa Cause Benefit Concert
7:30 tonight**

Jammin' Java, Vienna

...Rounding out the night is Vapor, a Fairfax-based pop-rock quartet appearing in its full electric mode. Jessica "Jessi" Canning is a corporate events coordinator by day but a dynamic lead singer at all other times and a local music stalwart.

She produces Jammin' Java's "songwriters in the round" sessions a few times each year, giving the community's composers a chance to share the stage in short acoustic sets. There's one coming up next week, with Vapor, The Excentrics and the Dreamscapes Project, among others...

SnapPop! Magazine
September 1999
by: Virginia Plaine

Jessi Canning 1999 (Self Release)

BANG: 7

This 3 song tape by DC singer Jessi Canning was produced by Poole's Bill Campbell who also plays keyboards and guitar on this recording. Canning has a lovely voice. And, her sinous [sinuous] melodies enveloped in the swirling textures created by Campbell are a heady concoction. Intoxicatingly pretty, she treads a fine line between comfort and risk: never jumping too far in the deep end but staying clear enough from the shallow to make things interesting. The production resembles My Bloody Valentine and has definite goth appeal. Very intriguing, this demo leaves you want

Feeling Fresh
By Korin Miller
Special to washingtonpost.com/MP3
Monday, September 27, 2004

Good things come to those who wait. Just ask singer/songwriter, [Jessi Canning](#).

After nearly three years of sporadic recording, her EP "A Little Mint" has finally come to fruition.

Canning's sound is an excellent mix of poppy, cleverly written music. Her soft vocals weave delicately through varying melodies and tempos to form catchy tunes, ideal for a romantic evening.

A native of the Washington area, this singer/songwriter escaped to Oklahoma for college, but decided to return before earning her degree. Canning admits this was a difficult decision to make. "I really wanted to finish what I had started," she says, "but I wasn't enjoying my studies and was starting to become more involved in the music scene back here."

Upon returning to her roots, Canning immersed herself in the local music community and quickly earned headlining gigs at area venues. In 1999 the singer became a front woman for the band Vapor, which she formed with guitarist Ben Martin. When the group disbanded in early 2002, Canning decided to try her hand at a solo career. It was around this time that she began work on "A Little Mint" with local producer, Todd Wright.

Canning is happy with the end result. "[Wright] has added so much to my songs and understood where I was coming from. He's got a great pop sense," she says.

"Cider Night," the first song on the EP, has all the elements of a hit. Creative guitar plucking, delicate harmonies, and a catchy beat all subtly support Canning's clear vocals. Another tune "World in Gray" is cleverly produced and hauntingly resonating.

Canning has now been a solid member of the area music scene for almost six years. "A lot of times people say this isn't a great town for music because it's not New York, L.A., or Nashville." She laughs and says, "It's D.C., and we are what we are. I don't expect it to be something that it's not."

However, this artist is pleased with the direction in which the music community is headed. Canning notes that restaurants and venues have begun to realize the importance of music to their businesses, and in turn have increased opportunities for local artists to be heard. She says, "I know that I've gotten great experience here and we have a solid support system."

Now that her EP is completed, Canning intends to focus more on performing in the area and to possibly begin work on another album. Look for great things to come from this artist.