

KRISTI MARTEL

AVANT-SOUL PIANO DIVA

Sunday, March 8, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Please list under
Jazz, Soul, Rock, Acoustic
Music Listings

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Sealed Lip Records &
The Hi Hat Present

Kristi Martel

When: Sunday, March 8, 2009

Where: The Hi Hat 3 Davol Square Providence, RI

Contact: 401-453-6500

Who: Kristi Martel (with Kevin Silvia)

Time: Doors at 5pm, Music at 7:30pm

Cost: \$10

Kristi Martel is thrilled to return to the Hi Hat for her first Rhode Island performance since the closing of one of her favorite RI venues last summer. Kevin Silvia will accompany Kristi for this special welcome home party. Come celebrate with her.

About Kristi Martel... www.kristimartel.com

"Kristi Martel loves life, and the joy she gets out of it exudes from her every pore. She can be singing about the darkest things in the world -- betrayal, self-hate, death -- and yet somehow, coming from her, it feels hopeful and uplifting." -- Marion Davis, Motif Magazine

"...love emanates from every note." - Vienna Teng

"...a fine musician...Incomparable!" - Utah Phillips

Featured on NPR, WERS, and in Curve Magazine, and voted Rhode Island's Best Alt-Rock Female Vocalist, award-winning songwriter and avant-soul piano diva Kristi Martel grew up in New England and earned an ASCAP grant and two music degrees (Bard and Mills College) before beginning her touring and recording career. Her sweet presence and fearless songwriting endear audiences nationwide. Her piano playing combines her love of blues dissonance and syncopation with her classical training. Her powerful voice is at once sweet and bitter, emotional and visionary, articulating prayers and quirky autobiographical narratives in the same breath.

Through Sealed Lip Records she has released six CDs. "Ravengirl" is Kristi's goofy joke superhero name for herself, her recognition of the crazy blessing it is that she felt joy everyday, amidst the profound grief, after her former life partner's suicide in 2003. This newest album is full up with that joy, with the healing

and transformation Kristi has undergone to be singing still so powerfully today. "Ravengirl" received a "highly recommended" from the Providence Journal and stellar reviews from Motif Magazine, Bay Windows, and the Providence Phoenix.

Kristi has recently recorded demos for her next full-length CD, "Sacred Whore," and she is currently gathering the team and the funds to record its 11 songs and 4 videos. The work is more jazz and soul, and focuses on the universal in our human experience and our need for inner and world peace. Come celebrate with her.

"Martel proves that she's a powerful storyteller, with meaningful lyrics, passionate performances, and an emotional mission."

- Bob Gulla for The Providence Phoenix

Kristi Martel's *Ravengirl*: "In this arresting, intense and surprisingly uplifting album, Martel works out some of her feelings about her lover's suicide...raw awareness, bemused and hurt but grateful and joyous, ...makes *Ravengirl* so compelling. The album begins with the eerie instrumental "Oya," a sort of rite of passage easing us into Martel's psyche. Martel then wraps us in the gentle "Day of Rain," a song about the day you realize the crying is finally over and are able to look back, calm and clear-eyed. The collage of memories that follows is tinted with the full spectrum of emotion, and Martel's nimble voice constantly shifts with the music... "I am doing fine, I am doing fine," she bubbles; it's not some ironic mantra or attempt at manifesting, just a cheerful chorus of simple truth. She's doing fine indeed, and the album soars way above fine."

- Brian Jewell for Bay Windows

Photos are available at www.kmetal.net/presspix.html.

Sealed Lip Records

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