



Besides getting her solo gear in full swing, Rachelle van Zanten is coaching aspiring female rockers with her Rocker Girl Camp.

The Daisies wilted but dream is alive

BY JASON SCHNEIDER
FOR THE RECORD

When Painting Daisies beat out 4,000 other bands to win the CBC's Great Canadian Music Dream competition in 2003, it seemed that the all-female blues-rock outfit from Alberta was well on its way to becoming a major musical force.

However, as everyone in the business knows, there are never any sure things, and the band quickly succumbed to some unfortunate circumstances. But that hasn't stopped guitarist Rachelle van Zanten, who has just put out her first solo album, entitled Back To Francois, an eclectic mix of rootsy songwriting styles, tied together by her inventive slide guitar playing that was the hallmark of Painting Daisies' sound.

Van Zanten admits that the album reflects some of the lessons of the past few years.

"I learned from our success that you have to ride the wave while you can, because the pop world is very fickle," she says. "When your band is hot, you have to go for it. When we won the Great Canadian Music Dream we had that opportunity, but were unable due to a very sick member of the band and other little things. That's OK though, we did what we could with what we had and I feel blessed. We toured through 36 states in America, all of Canada, Iceland, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. We were a special sisterhood and that is hard to find."

For those who remember the band's sound, some of van Zanten's solo material might contain a few unexpected twists.

"Back to Francois consists of a bunch of songs that didn't quite fit with the Painting Daisies' thing," she says. "Some of them have been with me for years while others were written right in the studio. Because it's me calling the shots, I just went for however I felt, with little compromise from others, which I must admit felt good. When I made albums with the band, it was good fun but always too stressful to make everyone happy."

While there are plenty of good female singer-songwriters around in Canada right now, few have the guitar

playing chops that van Zanten possesses. She draws frequent comparisons to Bonnie Raitt, but also some of the big boys like Jimmy Page and Little Feat's Lowell George. Yet, her chief inspiration came from fellow Albertan, and folk festival favourite, Lester Quiltzau.

"I saw Lester play at a festival in Smithers, B.C. and the sounds he got out of his guitar resonated inside me. I said to myself, 'I want to do that!' So I found Lester, introduced myself and jammed for a bit. I then went to almost every show he did until he moved to Pender Island, B.C. After that, I discovered Ben Harper and nothing could stop me!"

Van Zanten is hoping to pass on some of that inspiration to aspiring female musicians through Rocker Girl Camp, a project she started last year that is rapidly growing around western Canada.

"It was mainly a challenge to myself to design a five-day long camp for young women that would give them a chance to be a full-on musician," she says. "They learn how to write, do sound, manage a band, incorporate their instrument into a band, play music instead of doing drugs, wrap cables, etc. They work very hard all week, eight hours a day, and then perform their own rock show for the public at the end. The first camp was in Edmonton, and now with the help of my team, we have expanded to Victoria, Calgary, and northern B.C. I think it may start a revolution!"

For now though, van Zanten is occupied spreading her own revolution throughout Europe and Canada this summer. "I've been on the road for about two months, and I'm feeling really excited about how the songs have been developing live. People should expect to be rocked."

CONCERT

Who: **Rachell van Zanten with Chantel Vitalis**
Where: **Boathouse, Kitchener**
Day: **Wednesday**
Time: **9 p.m.**
Cost: **\$8**
Phone: **519-745-7202**

Artist shares his galaxy of wonder

By ROBERT REID
RECORD STAFF

WATERLOO

One of William Blake's illustrations shows a naked, reptilian-like man hunched over, his eyes narrowly focused on a scroll containing a geometric shape which he is measuring with calipers.

The rock on which he sits brims with colourful shapes, the elemental lifeforms of the natural world of which he is an integral part, but of which he is totally ignorant.

The man is Blake's satirical portrait of Isaac Newton, who represented for the visionary poet the crippling effect of rationalism and scientific materialism on the creative imagination.

I was reminded of Blake's famous illustration as I was taking in the exhibition of glass works by Josh Simpson at the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, not because the Massachusetts-based artist resemble Blake's depiction of Newton, but because he is the exact opposite.

It's abundantly evident from Simpson's marvellous works that here is an artist who has retained a child's fascination with the myriad splendours of the natural world.

And what makes his work so extraordinary is that he has found a way of not only expressing, but of giving shape, to his sense of wonder. This sense of wonder is enacted in the process of creating his works and is embodied in the finished product. Intent, execution and product coalesce in these wondrous works.

The exhibition title, Visions of Our Galaxy, reflects the imaginative range suggested by the works which bridge the microscope, the magnifying glass and the telescope through the transformative heat of the furnace.

Whether large globes adopting, adapting and expanding the traditional techniques used in making paperweights, large platters or unique vessels, Simpson's work brings to mind the foundation forms of the universe extending back to its geological creation and ranging from the depths of the oceans to the farthest reaches of intergalactic space.

Simpson calls his large, solid glass globes Megaplanets. Looking at them places viewers in the position of looking down at planets from a shuttle in outer space. This might sound whimsical; however, Simpson is married to NASA astronaut Cady Coleman.

The rich assortment of brilliantly coloured patterns and shapes contained within the globes of transparent glass seem three dimensional, some closer to the outer surface than others, producing the sensation of depth.

The gorgeous platters feature swirls and crackles of various hues of turquoise and blue. One suggests the Milky Way against a backdrop of a deep blue night sky, brimming with



PETER LEE, RECORD STAFF

Artist Josh Simpson sits by one of his works on exhibit at the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery in Waterloo.

pinprick stars.

The most visually stunning objects are what Simpson calls tektites (from the Greek tektos, meaning "molten").

These vessels consists of dark, molten-like, outer shells and inner shells of polished clear and coloured glass and opaque, pearl-like glass suggestive of sea shells.

The finished inner surfaces seem to emerge from the rough outer surfaces, symbolizing the transformative process of making glass from the raw materials of earth (sand, water), air and sun (heat).

HISTORICAL & CONTEMPORARY PAPERWEIGHTS

The 19th-century glass paperweights from the Lewis & Ruth Sherman Collection, augmented by the 20th-century glass paperweights from the Thomas King Collection, are a nice complement to Simpson's glass works.

As objects beautiful to behold, they remind viewers of a time when function and utility was not divorced from the qualities associated with fine art.

They are products of a kind of craftsmanship that is quickly disappearing with the mass production of uniform and interchangeable objects and planned obsolescence.

ART EXHIBIT

What: **Visions of Our Galaxy: Josh Simpson; Ceramic Work from Rankin Inlet; Sherman foundation Gift: Historical Paperweights**
Where: **Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery**
When: **Through Sept. 3**
Phone: **519-746-1882**

RANKIN INLET CERAMICS

Anyone who thinks the art of the Far North is restricted to soapstone carving better check out Ceramic Work from Rankin Inlet.

The exhibition features more than 30 ceramic pieces and six drawings by a dozen artists associated with the Matchbox Gallery, the only privately owned, artist-operated, cross-cultural gallery of its kind in Canada.

The glazed and unglazed earthenware and terracotta works draw their inspiration and imagery from traditional stories, legends and myths or reflect the life in the Far North, especially the intimate relationship between humans and the land, between humans and animals.

FRIDAY EVENING

Station	1	2	3	4	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
(2)	11	15	28	18	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	Dateline NBC		Windfall (R)		Law & Order: S.V.U. (R)	
(3)	21	23	52	5	Be Millionaire	Star! Daily	Funniest Home Videos (R)		★ ★ I Want to Marry Ryan Banks ('03,Romance) Jason Priestley.			
(4)	17	17	27	10	Inside Edition	Friends (R)	Ghost Whisperer (R)		Close to Home (R)		Numb3rs (R)	
(5)	5	6*	10	6	Hour 22 Mins	JFL: Gags (R)	Hockeyville		Air Farce	Air Farce	CBC News: The National	
(6)	3	3	3	3	E.T. Canada	Ent. Tonight	Zoe Busiek: Wild Card (R)		Windfall (R)		Numb3rs (R)	
(7)	6	9	29	22	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy	Billy Graham		Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Law/20	
(9)		13		8	eTalk	Jeopardy	Ghost Whisperer (R)		Close to Home (R)		Law & Order: S.V.U. (R)	
(10)	9	95			Be Millionaire	Star! Daily	Funniest Home Videos (R)		★ ★ I Want to Marry Ryan Banks ('03,Romance) Jason Priestley.			
(11)	10	12	11	11	The Insider	Caitlin's Way	Dateline NBC		Case Files	Case Files	Law/20	
(13)	12	40	13	13	eTalk	Jeopardy	Ghost Whisperer (R)		Close to Home (R)		Law & Order: S.V.U. (R)	
(17)	61	35	30	61	(6:30)NewsHour	Summer Wine	*** Tom Jones (1963,Comedy) Albert Finney.					Wash. Week
(29)	28	34	31	21	Raymond (R)	Judge Judy	★ The Animal (2001,Comedy) Rob Schneider.				Seinfeld (R)	That '70s Show
(36)	23	36		14	7th Heaven (R)		Touched By An Angel 1/2 (R)		100 Huntley Street		James Robison	Benny Hinn
(47)	4	4	47	4	Wheel Fortune	Raymond (R)	Omni News: Italian Edition		Vivere	Noi Oggi	The Simpsons	King of the Hill
(57)	7	7	33	7	Sex & City	Friends (R)	★ The Animal (2001,Comedy) Rob Schneider.				The Collector (R)	
(61)	8		4	12	Des squelettes	Doops!	Le match des étoiles		Bons baisers de France		Le Téléjournal/ Le Point	
(A&E)	31	29	16	30	American Justice (R)		★ The Shining (1980,Horror) Jack Nicholson.					
(APTN)	65	38	57	83	APTN News	Contact		APTN Short	*** Volcano (1997,Action) Tommy Lee Jones.			Spring Bling
(BET)	49	50			(6:00)106 & Park	To Be Announced						
(BRAVO)	40	56		39	Bravo! Videos	Fact Presents	Movie TV	Close-Up	*** Cadillac Ranch (1997,Drama) Suzy Amis.			
(CMT)	38	55	9	40	(6:00)Chevy Top 20 Countdown		Terri Clark: Real		Reba (R)	Married.	Chevy Top 20 Countdown	
(CNBC)	55	52	49	33	On the Money		Poker		Mad Money (R)		The Big Idea	
(CNN)	33	28	15	31	The Situation Room		Paula Zahn Now		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360	
(COM)	46	45	37	50	Air Farce (R)	You Bet Your	Alice, I Think	Corner Gas (R)	The Simpsons	South Park (R)	Dave Chappelle	
(DISC)	42	57	19	38	Daily Planet		Blueprint for Disaster (R)		Strange UFO Stories (R)		A Haunting (R)	
(FAM)	51	46	38	48	Ned	★ Hook (1991,Fantasy) Robin Williams.	Pizza My Heart (2005,Family) Shiri Appleby.					
(FOOD)	56	90	52	52	S. Gourmet	Rachael Ray's	Licence to Grill	Crash My	Restaurant Makeover (R)	Opening Soon	I Do, Let's Eat!	
(GOLF)	52	53		56	NWTV Golf LaSalle Bank Open	2nd Round Site: The Glen Club Glenview, Ill.			LPGA Golf McDonald's Championship (R)			
(HGTV)	43	43	34	51	House Hunters	Mission: Org.	Neat	Space-Living	Opening Soon	Trading Up (R)	How Not to Decorate (R)	
(HIST)	45	41	39	54	JAG (R)		Frontiers of Construction (R)		Stealing Mary (R)		Turning Points of History (R)	
(KWTV)	20				No Price-Home	One on One	Today's	Decorative	For Kids' Sake	On the Menu	Today's	No Price-Home
(LIFE)	41	58	36	43	Skin Deep	Opening Soon	Little Miracles (R)		Opening Soon	Real Renos (R)	Campus Vets	Med Students
(MMM)	29	22	35	28	Style Star (R)	VideoOnTrial (R)	MuchOnDemand		The It List (R)		ReachMusic Countdown (R)	
(MMM)	36		51	68	All Access (R)		Uncovered (R)	MMMM Profile	But Can They Sing?		When KISS Ruled the World (R)	
(NW)	26	19	25	23	Canada Now	Au Courant	Outside the Box (R)		CBC News: The National		War of the Sexes	
(OLN)	48	48	32	53	Hooked (R)	Lumberjack (R)	The Amazing Race		The Amazing Race		Beyond Boundaries (R)	
(OMN12)	14	18			Law & Order: S.V.U. (R)		Omni News: South Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		King of Queens	Inside Edition
(RDI)	70	61	82		Le Monde	Part choses	Vu du large		Le Téléjournal/ Le Point		Découverte	
(ROB)	57	93		79	The Business News		Market Tonight	Car Business	Squeeze Play		Market Call	
(RSO)	22	44	42	36	MLB Baseball Detroit Tigers vs. Toronto Blue Jays	Site: Rogers Centre Toronto, Ont.	Live				Sportsnet News	
(SHOW)	39	59	20	44	Da Vinci's Inquest (R)		Cold Squad (R)		Bliss (R)	Kink (R)	Webdreams (R)	Sin Unleashed
(SPC)	44	47	45	55	Andromeda (R)		Stargate: SG-1 "Fallout" (R)		Star Trek: Enterprise (R)		Supernatural (R)	
(SPD)	54	54	44	57	Trackside At "Pocono"		Tradin' Paint	NASCAR Perf.	NASCAR Auto Racing Craftsman		Truck Series Sam's Town 400	
(SPIKE)	32	30	14	34	CSI: Crime Scene (R)		CSI: Crime Scene (R)		CSI: Crime Scene (R)		CSI: Crime Scene (R)	
(SUNTV)	15	16		16	To Serve and Protect		Bernie Mac	Bernie Mac	Charmed		Girlfriends (R)	Half & Half (R)
(TBS)	47	51	40	49	Raymond (R)	Raymond (R)	Friends 1/2 (R)	Friends 2/2 (R)	★ ★ Old School (2003,Comedy) Luke Wilson.			
(TFO)	18	8	56	27	Panorama documentaire (R)		Animaux/dérangé (R)		Au bord de la mer bleue (1936,Drame) Yelena Kuzmina.			
(TLC)	34	25	41	32	What Not to Wear (R)		What Not to Wear (R)		What Not to Wear		A Day of Weddings	
(TLN)	35	32		35	Finalmente Soli	Sky TG	La Notte di Pasquino				Raymond	Raymond
(TOON)	50	42	18	47	Teen (R)	Class of Titans	Futurama (R)	Grim Adventure	Family Guy (R)	Son of Butch	Futurama (R)	The Boondocks
(TREE)	64	33		26	Franklin (R)	Berenstain	Little Bear (R)	FourSquare	Bear in House	Comfy Couch	Babar (R)	Max & Ruby (R)
(TROP)	58	49	43	58	Due South (R)		Seinfeld (R)	Seinfeld (R)	Ellen (R)	Grace Fire (R)	Frasier (R)	Married.
(TSN)	30	39	17	20	That's Hockey	FIFA Soccer Germany vs. Costa Rica World Cup 1st Round			FIFA Soccer Poland vs. Ecuador World Cup		Le TVA 22 Heures	
(TVA)	63	74	58	81	Dans Caméra	La Cité des anges (1998,Drame) Meg Ryan.						
(TVO)	2	2	2	2	Around the World in 80 Days (R)		Studio 2 (R)		Heartbeat (R)		Midsomer Murders 2/2 (R)	
(V)	27	37	23	60	Touched By An Angel (R)		Gaither Gospel Hour		McLeod's Daughters (R)		Mysterious Ghosts	
(W)	60	60	24	45	Ghostly Enc	Rescue	Most Haunted (R)		Investigators	Crimes of	Derek Acorah's Ghost Towns	
(YTV)	25	21	7	25	Prank Patrol (R)	Zixx Level One	Naruto (R)	S. Raiders	Inuyasha (R)	Gundam Seed	Alchemist	Zixx: Level Two

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