

April 2005

Local Artist To Release Debut Album

Local singer/songwriter Monica Joy will be releasing her debut CD this week with concerts in both Bayfield and Stratford.

The project, entitled *If Everything Is Lost*, is a refreshing collection of 13 songs which explore themes such as faith, grace and hope from a Christian perspective.

"Many of these songs," explains Monica, "embody things learned while others represent the person I would yet like to be".

The album, produced by brothers Michael and Scott Bannerman, is to be released under the Braintree Records label and has been compared in style to the likes of Chantal Kreviazuk and Sarah McLachlan.

"*If Everything is Lost* is a really intimate project... you throw it in your CD player and it's like having Monica, her piano and small string quartet right there in your living room," explains Michael.

The CD, recorded at The Music Room in Kerwood, Ontario and mixed at AME studios in Kitchener also includes contributions by other local artists such as David Campion on percussion, Ben Bolt-Martin on cello, Penny Brown on back up vocals and Glen Teeple on bass guitar. Producers Michael and Scott Bannerman also lend a hand on guitars and keyboards.

Monica and her husband Tim (formerly the associate pastor of Faith Bible Church in Stratford) have recently moved to Zurich where she is an elementary music teacher and he is now pastoring at Zurich Mennonite Church. They are also excitedly expecting the arrival of their first child in August.

The Bayfield concert will take place at 8 p.m. on Sunday, April 24th at the Bayfield Town Hall followed by a second concert in Stratford at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 30th at Faith Bible Church. Tickets are \$8.00 in advance or \$10.00 at the door and can be picked up at any local Christian bookstore or reserved by emailing monicajoymusic@yahoo.ca or by calling (519) 236-7042.