EW SPOTLIGHT
Inspirational Woman of the Month

October 2010: Kim Cameron

Kim Cameron and the SideFX band offer an eclectic blend of pop, rock and jazz into a smooth, groovy listening experience. Think Carly Simon with an attitude.

The group launched their first album, Contradictions in the September 2008. Combining a fresh, genre-shifting sound with inspired and deeply personal lyrics, every song in the album is wrapped around a personal experience of lead singer/songwriter, Kim Cameron. Gaining popularity quickly throughout the Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, MD area, SideFX offers an alternative sound that is all their own.

The SideFX band officially came together in 2007 when they began expanding their basement jamming sessions to local restaurants, benefits and venues. In April 2007, Kim Cameron was inspired to write the songs in Contradictions after her brother-in-law was diagnosed with cancer. Writing songs became a positive outlet for expressing how much he had made an impact on her life. “My goal with writing and singing is to help take people away from a frustrating day or sad place and bring them back home – and home is not a location, but rather a place that you can feel grounded and safe,” says Kim.

The album name Contradictions carries hidden meanings. It represents the clash between the upbeat sounds and the lyrical content and the album’s lack of a fixed genre. For Kim, the true contradiction is: “What you see is not always what you get. Inside all of us are some hidden truths or talents that are often overlooked.”

A gift for storytelling makes each song by Kim Cameron an unraveling tale that effortlessly connects the listener with the music. Her lyrics speak to life’s journey, exploring emotional relationships and drawing strength from life experiences. The songs reveal a surprising depth—from lyrics about disillusioned troops (“My Hero”), to the temptations of a budding romance (“Come a Little Closer”), to an intimate portrait of a trapped woman who would “rather hide under MySpace eyes” (“Her Escape”). Kim Cameron gives the album a get-up-and-dance spirit with a seductive twist. Kim Cameron’s sultry alto notes blend seamlessly among the electric guitar riffs and the saxophone solos.