

# Allison Crowe's first solo album 'raw and honest'

By LYNN WELBURN  
Daily News

Nanaimo's Allison Crowe is about to launch her first solo CD.

The CD, *Secrets*, is a singer-songwriter collection of primarily her original music plus two songs by other artists. It's slated for release May 10 and is available for pre-order at: [www.allisoncrowe.com/shop.html](http://www.allisoncrowe.com/shop.html)

Originally the recording was scheduled for May 5 release, but Crowe decided to delay it when she realized that was the birthday of Lisa Marie Young, a Nanaimo woman who has been missing now for nearly two years. Crowe will sing May 1 at a vigil the family is holding for Young, performing *Lisa's Song* which she wrote for the missing woman.

"I just didn't want anything to take attention away from Lisa right now, from her vigil or her birthday or anything," said Crowe. "I just would rather postpone the launch until afterwards."

Crowe spent much of last year writing and rehearsing and has done much of the recording of this CD right in her own home with father, Del Crowe, backing her up on guitar.

She took her recording equipment, on loan from a dedicated fan who is out of the country for some time, to visit a couple of other musicians to add accordion and uilleann pipe to the recording.



ALLISON CROWE'S new CD cover. (Adrian Du Plessis photo)

And much of the percussion on the CD is also hers, usually created by thumping on the back of a guitar and adding a little reverb.

Production and engineering assistance was provided by Rainer Willeke of Raindog Productions in Victoria.

"This is different from a studio recording because it's less polished and doesn't have that 'big' sound but the music is very clear, it's raw and honest," said Crowe. "This has taken it back to the music, not about the special effects."

*Secrets* will be available at Fascinating Rhythm and Lobelia's Lair locally, she says, as well as online.

To hear a couple of tracks from *Secrets*, go online and look for: (What About You) [www.allisoncrowe.com/whataboutyou.mp3](http://www.allisoncrowe.com/whataboutyou.mp3) and (Joan of Arc) [www.allisoncrowe.com/joanofarc.mp3](http://www.allisoncrowe.com/joanofarc.mp3)

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[image caption:] Allison Crowe's new CD cover (Adrian Du Plessis photo)

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