

Ashley Jordan's "Simple Love" debuts

by Jackie McHugh
Broomfield junior Ashley Jordan recently released her debut album, "Simple Love," on February 12th which is now available on iTunes.

Even as a young child, music always fascinated Jordan. "I got into music at an early age and was singing before I could really even talk," says Jordan. "I used to beg my dad to build me a stage and I loved to do karaoke."

Five years ago, Jordan's musical career began at Broomfield's Comic Amphitheater. "I sang an Avril Lavigne song for the sixth grade talent show. It felt so natural and familiar to be on the stage that I knew I wanted to keep going," she says.

Following her talent show success, Jordan began singing in public more often, and pursued guitar lessons. "After a while I decided that I wanted to play the guitar myself so I [wouldn't] have to depend on other people playing along

with me," she explains. "Eventually I took some lessons, but I really didn't enjoy [playing]. 'Little Red Riding Hood' and stuff like that."

After a few lessons, Jordan decided

to teach herself guitar. If she had no questions about guitar, she would ask someone who had experience playing the instrument.

"I learned pretty quickly, but I wanted to keep improving," Jordan says. "One day I was at an open mic show and the featured act was this amazing musician named John Gerard. He was so good and so passionate about his music, I wanted to be able to perform like that, so I went to see him at another performance a few weeks later, and after the show I walked right up to him and asked him if he would teach me to play the guitar."

Gerard agreed to work with Jordan and the two began performing together. The duo clicked immediately. Jordan says that she learned a lot from working with Gerard, who later introduced Jordan to producer Steve Rapson, who worked with

Jordan on "Simple Love."



COURTESY PHOTO

Ashley's new song "Simple Love" was selected by *ix Play* Films to be placed in the romantic comedy feature film entitled "Good For You".

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sympathetic with qualities that everyone bigger way that he is able to transform musical medium and create back music

Jordan's music sets a simple tone for all

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While working on her album, Jordan spent about thirty hours in the studio and more than a month recording rarer songs. She also spent a few weeks designing a cover for the disc. The finished album was created by a music managing company called Nixie.

Following its release, Jordan's album experienced instant success. "It is very gratifying after working so hard on my music to finally have it out for others to hear," she says.

In fact, the title song from the album will even be featured in a movie. "It was really exciting to have one of my songs selected. 'Simple Love' will be placed in the movie called 'Good For You' set in Seattle, Washington. It's a great way to get exposure for my music," Jordan adds.

"The music world isn't easy, so you have to be aggressive and get

yourself out there," she says. "There are tons and tons of musicians trying to get their music out there too, so I've found that you just have to keep your focus and don't let anyone make you feel that you can't do it. You need to have a tough skin. Plus you need to have people supporting you and I have a really supportive family who comes to my gigs and drives me all over the place. I couldn't do it without them."

"I really love every part of the process of music... from writing to performing to recording. It's really my way of expressing myself," she explains. "As the long term future, I just want to get out there, perform, write, and see where it takes me in the music world."

Jordan says she likes to use music as an escape. "Music is always there for me. Even when things get tough, it never fails on me."



COURTESY PHOTO

Ashley has followed a tough regime of performing almost every weekend during the school year including a spot at the Hard Rock Cafe in Boston.