

Lakeshore News

A proud part of your community since 1948

A Division of Postmedia Community Publishing

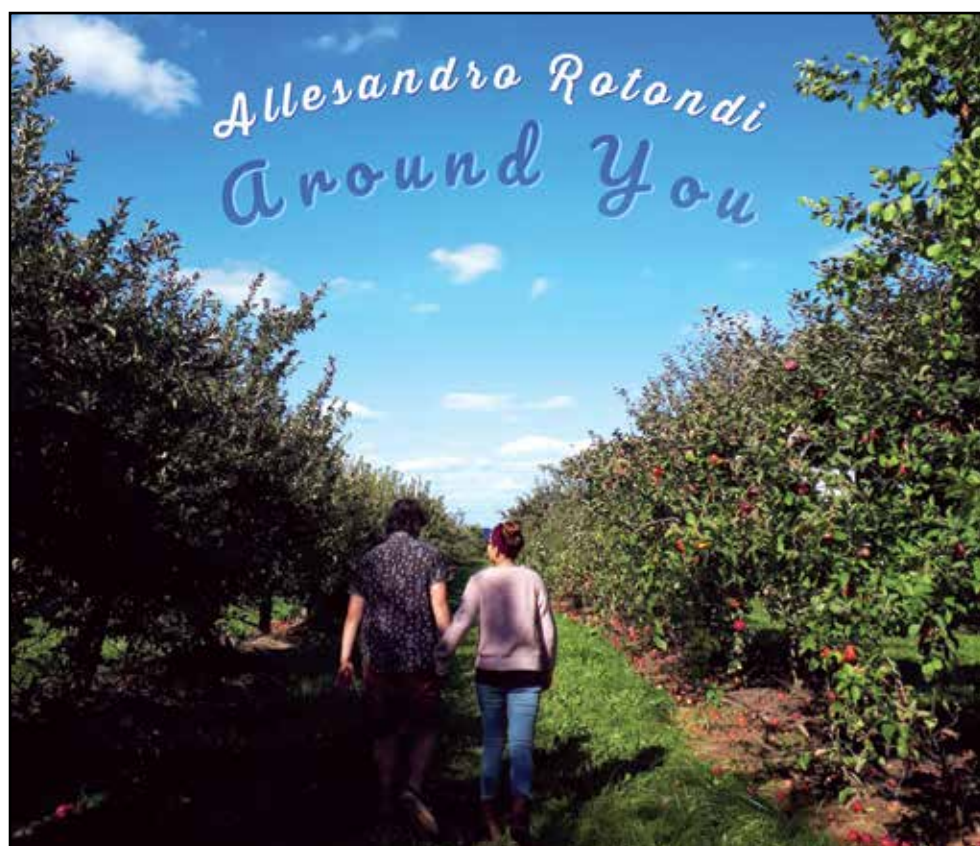


Thursday
June 6, 2019
Volume 71, No. 23

'Around You' a message to local musician's late grandfather



Allesandro Rotondi, left, has just released his first CD entitled 'Around You.' He is pictured at his CD release celebration last Friday at Green Bean Cafe with Eric Vanier on drums and Mike Molnar on bass.



By Matt Weingarden
Staff Reporter

'Around You' the latest musical project from local musician/singer/songwriter Allesandro Rotondi is a message to his late grandfather Ivan Gojmerac. The CD is comprised of 11 tracks and "has a bit of a theme to it," shared Rotondi, a resident of Tecumseh.

He says that when he began recording that 'message' theme it wasn't really planned, but as he progressed it became obvious.

"The last track on the CD 'What's the weather like in heaven?' is a track inspired by my grandfather. We used to sit and talk on the front porch and he would ask me if I had a girlfriend yet?" laughed Rotondi. "He passed away when I was 14, so this CD is kind of a message to him...here's what you've missed out on since you've been gone."

Rotondi, 21, has been writing music since he was seven years-of-age.

"The project was started about a year ago and grew out of a Beach Boys themed project that I was working on," said Rotondi. "It was the first time I had ever really sat down in the studio and wrote and recorded original music."

'Around You' was produced entirely as a solo project with Rotondi playing all of the instruments.

He recorded and produced the project in his basement studio. He also played all of the instruments including guitar, 12-string guitar, ukulele, bass, drums/percussion and piano.

Allesandro shares that his biggest influences include The Beach Boys, Elton John, The Beatles, Jim Croce and cites newer acts like Ed Sheeran and Mac Demarco.

"As I made the album over the year, I heard and incorporated newer influences." He added.

As for the recording process, Rotondi says that he picked out the songs he was interested in recording and started laying down guitar tracks. Some tracks came to-

gether instantly note for note, while others were a little more experimental in nature.

"I did some ghost tracking on the guitar and then added drums, bass and percussion," said Rotondi. "I usually save the vocals tracks for last, they bring the song together at the end and help seal up the cracks in the song. Then it's a matter of mixing and mastering."

Allesandro has just finished his third year at the University of Windsor in the music program. He is studying as a jazz/pop guitar major and hopes to become a music teacher one day. He cites his high school teacher, Gabe Gagnon as a big influence on him as a student at St. Anne Secondary School.

Last Friday Rotondi held a CD release party at the Green Bean Café in Windsor.

Allesandro says that the CD is also a thank you and acknowledgment to his girlfriend Ashley Spina, who handled the artwork on the release.

He plans to make his next project a collaborative effort with other local musicians and is currently working on a CD with his other band 'Midnight Metro.'

'Around You' can be purchased on Spotify, iTunes and Apple Music. It is also available at Dr. Disc and Sunrise Records in the Devonshire Mall. Or you can visit Allesandro Rotondi Music on Facebook.

If you wish to catch Allesandro playing live here are some of his upcoming performances:

- Fri. June 7 - LaSalle Strawberry Festival at 6:30 p.m.
- Sat. June 15 - Return of the Romantics at GBCB at 8 p.m.
- Fri. July 12 - Belle River Sunsplash with his band Midnight Metro at 7 p.m. in Lakeview Park.
- Sun. July 28 - Lakewood Park in Tecumseh at 1 p.m.