

Abby Siracusa  
October 27, 2012  
Music Appreciation  
Concert Report

Chris Proctor  
The Coffee Gallery Backstage  
2029 North Lake Avenue  
Altadena, CA 91001  
Sunday, October 21, 2012  
7:00 p.m.

It was a cold October 21<sup>st</sup> in a back room in a small coffee house. The room looked like a barn with miniature airplane models. Everything was silent, and then suddenly out comes Chris Proctor, the solo guitarist. I was very intrigued to hear what he plays like, but before he did, he starts talking about himself and his career. I found it fascinating that he was able to connect with the audience so well. As soon as he started playing, I noticed that he plays with his eye closed because he got lost in the music along with the stories he told and I thought it was very unusual because I've never seen that before. His original songs were mostly folk pieces mixed with some popular 60's and 70's pieces, such as, "Revolution", "Good Day Sunshine", and "With a Little Help from My Friends". The minute he started playing, I knew he was going to be outstanding.

As the first set went along, the dynamics were changing drastically, however the tempo stayed consistent throughout the performance. His guitar playing was very majestic and legato, with a few twists and turns. When he would begin to tell stories about that certain song, it would be very moving to hear his personal experiences that he told through his fingertips. One song that really caught my attention was his story about his 8<sup>th</sup> grade history class. He was talking about how upset he was that his history teacher didn't tell his class the whole story of Lewis and Clark, and how Meriweather Lewis killed himself a few years after their famous expedition. So he wrote a song called, "Meriweather". I found it to be a moving yet haunting experience to hear that song. During the variety of pieces, I would look around and see the various expressions of the audience. Many of the people were tapping their feet and bopping their heads, so I could obviously tell that they were enjoying his performance very much. I too was enjoying his stellar

performance on both the six-string guitar and twelve-string guitar. The thing that I was most impressed about was by how fast he was able to finger the chords and use improve within the different songs. Throughout my years, I've seen many popular artists play the guitar, but none were as astonishing as Chris Proctor.

The one thing that impressed me the most about his performance was his ability to create spooky yet inspirational music by writing about his life. This really left me wondering about his personality and what his life was like. I think that Chris Proctor did a phenomenal job and was a very well-rounded artist. Before I went to this performance, I wasn't expecting what I saw. It was totally difference in the sense of how he played and what style he played. I would definitely recommend this concert to a friend, because I believe that they will see the same breath-taking experience that I did.

