



Red Tree Music

THE

## Glen Rock Gazette

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February 13, 2004

### Local singer-songwriter to perform with “Jersey’s Finest”

Glen Rock resident and singer/songwriter Cynthia Summers has been invited to perform Feb. 14, in a concert celebrating the best of the Garden State’s acoustic musicians. The evening is part of the Sanctuary Concerts, a twice-monthly acoustic music series featuring well-loved national and regional musicians together with our area’s most talented artists. “Jersey’s Finest: A Celebration of New Jersey Performers” presents nationally known musicians Gregg Cagno and the Dirty Birdies Jug Band, and reserves special slots for three up-and-coming performers, including Summers.

Summers has sung, played guitar, and written songs her whole life. In addition, her training as a poet and her current career as a literary editor have also influenced her deeply felt songs. In the fall of 2000, she

dropped in on an open mike evening at Heirloom Café, the former Glen Rock venue. Summers expected to play for a few minutes. Instead, encouraged by café owner Paul Dodenhoff, she performed for nearly an hour. Dodenhoff describes the meeting: “Cynthia’s incredibly angelic voice combined with her amazing guitar playing entranced me so much that I kept asking her to play. I was so excited I called my wife and held the phone up so she could hear! Cynthia quickly became one of our regular performers and one of our customers’ favorites.”

Summers went on to perform at other north Jersey and New York State venues known for acoustic music, including the Minstrel Coffeehouse in Mendham, the People’s Music Festival in Beacon, N.Y., and the NJ Folk Project Fall Festival. She was also invited to

perform at festivals in Virginia and Ohio.

The Sanctuary Concerts take place in the sanctuary space of the Union Village Methodist Church, 1130 Mountain Avenue, Berkeley Heights. The space is airy and intimate, and the room is fully wheelchair-accessible. Tickets for “Jersey’s Finest” are \$12; the price includes a special Valentine’s Day Chocolate Festival at intermission, with home-made chocolates, chocolate cookies, and chocolate cake. The doors open at 7:30 pm. For more information, call 973.376.4946 or visit [www.sanctuaryconcerts.org/](http://www.sanctuaryconcerts.org/). For more information about Summers, visit [www.cynthiasummers.com](http://www.cynthiasummers.com).