

THE FACES BEHIND THE MUSIC

Stephanie Montani

Digital photographs printed on album covers

“Throughout my life music has always been my safe space, my comfort zone, and my balance through highs and lows. I have spent a long time finding myself as an artist and have experimented with all styles of photography from commercial and hospitality to fashion and portraiture.

In the summer of 2019, a specific low moment at a music festival brought me right back to where I began, the music industry. In the moment I was watching the artist perform, all I could think about was how I would photograph the performance. I became obsessed with the idea and wondered to myself what I was doing standing in the crowd when I could be in the media pit capturing this performance. On my way home from the festival, I decided I was going to dedicate my life to photographing and creating art for and with musicians and that is exactly what I did.



Anne Foster Window display by Stephanie Montani



Detail: Kobi and Nim, staff at The Casbah

This collection of images is a celebration of the past year and a half of my life since turning my career around. These photographs capture the shows that confirmed my decision was right and made me fall so in love with what I do. In addition, I wanted to celebrate not just the artists I've seen through my lens, but the many faces we all see that don't get on stage. I wanted to showcase the people who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make the scene here in Hamilton thrive, and who make it not just an industry, but a family. This is my thank you to all of you! Thank you for inspiring, supporting and welcoming me into your family!"

- Stephanie Montani

Featured companies:

Supercrawl
Sonic Unyon Records
I Heart Hamilton
93.3 CFMU
3Mirage Studio
LuckyStickz

Mills Hardware
The Casbah
Into The Abyss
Jillard Guitars

Featured bands/musicians:

The Dirty Nil
Arkells
Basement Revolver
Ellevator

LT the Monk
Blue
Ellis

About the Artist:

Born in Brantford, Ontario and currently residing in Hamilton, Stephanie Montani discovered her love of photography at the very young age of twelve. By sixteen she had begun working local music events and experimenting with different styles of art including photography. She went on to study photography in college where she discovered her passion for music and portrait photography.

Stephanie brings a deep understanding of the physical and emotional aspects of art. Having worked in some of North America's most exclusive studios and at Canada's most reputable music festivals, Stephanie has the experience, dedication and skill to deliver quality photos, to any client. Find more of Stephanie's work at stephaniemontani.com and on Instagram @stephmontaniphotography.

THE FACES BEHIND THE MUSIC will be on display in the Anne Foster Windows through April 2021.

The Anne Foster Windows:

As part of the City of Hamilton, Tourism and Culture Division's ongoing support of the creative industries, local artists are invited to create and install window displays that celebrate Hamilton's music scene. This space, the Anne Foster Window, is a fitting home for music themed displays as the entryway lead to the Anne Foster Music shop for almost 50 years (1947-1995).

For more information visit www.hamilton.ca/annefosterwindows

