

## Steffi Ledbetter Band plays tight jazz at Eighth & Rail

By Katy Thorson | oanow.com Dec 7, 2014 (0)



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Katy Thorson

Steffi Ledbetter, who's been singing since she was just a wee little girl, belted out these songs with an unwavering accuracy like it was nothing



The Steffi Ledbetter band put on a ridiculously good display of jazz on Saturday night at Eighth & Rail. Ledbetter, an Auburn native, had all eyes on the stage with her crystalline voice.

The band, comprising Ledbetter on vocals, Sam Altonji on bass, Hunter Jackson on drums, Jimi Greene on guitar and Jonathan Lynn on piano, came on at 8:30 p.m. and started off with a cover of classic, "Dream a Little Dream of Me." They then went on to play a wildly enticing performance of Estelle's "American Boy." Ledbetter, who's been singing since she was just a wee little girl, belted out these songs with an unwavering accuracy like it was nothing.

Following this were renditions of "Fly Me to the Moon" and "I'll Be Home for Christmas," as well as a must-hear jazz cover of Imagine Dragons' "Radioactive." Another 30 minutes in, the group played a cover of Etta James' "I'd Rather Go Blind." At one point in the song, Ledbetter's vocals flew into the sky, hitting some Mariah Carey pitches. The crowd had no choice but to react with a "whew!" The band ended the show at midnight after cheers for an encore and played a sprightly mashup of Led Zeppelin's "Fool in the Rain" and jazz standard, "On the Sunny Side of the Street."



Ledbetter, who cites musical influences like Ella Fitzgerald, Nikki Yanofsky and Celine Dion on her Facebook page, has performed in numerous musicals, sporting events, choirs and contests. She was even invited to sing during a speech in Montgomery, Ala. by former president George W. Bush Jr.

"I love to make people smile when I perform," says Ledbetter on her band's Facebook page, "and this is surely

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OCTOBER 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 ...
2 ...	3 ...	4 ...	5 ...	6 ...	7 ...	8 ...
9 ...	10 ...	11 ...	12 ...	13 ...	14 ...	15 ...
16 ..	17 ...	18 ...	19 ...	20 ...	21 ...	22 .
23 ..	24 ...	25 ...	26 ...	27 ...	28 ...	29 ...

what I want to do for the rest of my life!"

Come next January, the 19-year-old songstress just might catch a break when she hops on the audition stage for the beast of all singing competitions, "American Idol." So, make sure to watch on Jan. 7, and cheer on this member of the Auburn Family.

For additional information and performance dates, you can visit the Steffi Ledbetter Facebook page.

#### Audience Reactions:



"They did really well. Steffi has a really great voice." - Josh Clemons, Rebecca Keller and Emily Campbell

30  
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26

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26

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OCT  
26

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OCT  
26

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