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**Gig review:** Mymission2:unplugged @ The Ramshackle, Sept 17<sup>th</sup> 2008

The first act of the night was a bit of a surprise! Having mistaken our event for an open mic night, 'Phousa' turned up with her guitar and asked to play. Here at mymission2 we believe in giving everyone a chance so we gave her a short slot at the beginning. We were right to do so as she kicked off the evening in very fine form. Her particular brand of laid back acoustic pop set the tone for a great night.

Second up was 'Martyna Baker'. She blew the audience's socks off! Playing acoustic soul, her voice was the highlight of many of the audience members' night. Not only was her vocal range impressive but her guitar playing perfectly complimented it. She chose for her cover 'Cry Me a River' by Justin Timberlake. Not an easy choice but one which she turned into a real show stopper.

The next act up was 'Leila & Philip'. Unfortunately Leila was on the verge of losing her voice but accompanied by Philip's guitar she still sang a few original songs and their cover of 'Rise' by Gabrielle. A great performance and we hope she gets better soon!

Following a short interval, 'Mondesir' hit the stage. Classifying herself as folk, her voice filled the room. Technically her guitar playing was amazing and her set incredibly powerful. Her cover of 'Jolene' by Dolly Parton was given a bluesy twist much to everyone's enjoyment and she received a great reaction from the audience.

Last up was Sean Clothier. A mixture of Indie acoustic guitar with harmonica and a hefty slice of comedy, he soon had the whole room laughing. Song subjects ranged from meeting ex-girlfriends' mothers to Sarah Palin with clever lyrics and energetic strumming. However all agreed that the piece de resistance was his cover of 'Common People' by Pulp performed while he played an accordion ... something which mymission2 believe to be a first! He left the stage to much applause.

When the acts had finished, the audience voted for their favourite cover song performance. Sean Clothier came first, with Mondesir second and Martyna Baker third. Between them they won some fabulous prizes including a Shure SM58 microphone, hundreds of pounds of StudioSpares vouchers, 1 year membership plus some rehearsal time at The Premises Studios and 1 year subscriptions to Acoustic magazine.

All in all a great night was had by all. New unsigned artists showcased their not inconsiderable talent and mymission2 got to spread the word again. The event was well received and plans are in the pipeline for October's event with rumours flying that it will either be a comedy night or an open mic night ... so watch this space!

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