

Kayleigh Kee

1000 word feature article:

Title:

Backstage, Boys - and a BAND?

Main Quote:

“This is the most personal album I’ve ever written”.

Interview:

I am here backstage in the one and only, Howellsy’s dressing room, here in the o2 arena in London. Yes, you heard me right, Howellsy! Just two hours before her biggest show ever, I am here to get a little insight to her latest album, ‘A Divine Intervention’. Looking outside, there’s rows and rows of fans – from small independent singer to global indie sensation, we’re not kidding when we say we’re jealous over here at indiependent! The fans outside are itching for the doors to open, management is running around making sure everything is running smoothly, it’s a wonder how the indie goddess herself is so relaxed.

And here she is, the golden girl herself, Anna Martin, or best known by her stage name Howellsy. How are you feeling with just two hours to go till the biggest show of your life?

H – “I’m good! I’m so excited to finally get back out there and show them what I got”

What have you been doing since your first album back in 2015?

H – “Netflix. *laughs* no, I’ve been working on ‘a divine intervention’, see a lot has happened in the last year, it’s been so crazy! And [first album] wanderlust was so successful, and I was only 15 when I wrote it! So now that more has happened and I can take it seriously, I’ve just been pouring my heart and soul into this album. **This is the most personal album I’ve ever written.** I mean I still have time for Netflix though *laughs*”.

Really, what is it on Netflix that you’ve been so busy with?

H – “Stranger things! Honestly as soon as season two was released I sat in bed binge watching all day, it may have even inspired a song or two”

Relatable much? Just 5 minutes with this girl and she is a-maze-ing. Seriously, we’re in love – the look, the laughs, the music, seriously what can’t she do?

So, ‘A Divine Intervention’, what inspired it?

H – “Like I said, wanderlust was way more successful than I ever thought it would be, and I just wanted to like, replicate that. But it’s been two, nearly three years, I’ve grown up a lot and can actually take it seriously now. Last year was a big year for me, it had some ups, some downs, but this is my year – I’m performing at the o2 for crying out loud!”

Tell me a little about last year, what were some of the ups?

H – “Well the album was being finalised, so I knew I was on to big things. I turned 18 so could finally set up this tour. Mainly the album, I hold it close to my heart this one”

What about some of the downs?

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H – “Honestly, the downs have turned into ups! But it was just, teenage drama, I’m sure you know how it is - boys, breakups all that. But all of that turned into a song [heartbreaker] which then turned into a number 1 hit on the billboard top 100, so who’s laughing now?”

Me and Howellsy talked and talked as if we had been best friends for years! And then she let something slip. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, buckle up because you are in for some real gossip today.

We notice you have been working closely to a certain, Matty Healy from the band The 1975, do you think there will there be a romance blossoming?

H – “*laughing* no no no Matty is a good friend of mine, we’ve been working on a sort of project together that will be announced later on. But no, it’s nothing romantic, it’s just working and producing for the band- oh no I shouldn’t have said that!”

A new band? Your new band?

H – “Well I guess there’s no harm in telling you now! Me and Matty are working together on a feature song, and yes I did say band. We’re both under the same management [dirty hit records], and well, yes there will be an up and coming band on the way, and me and Matty may be working alongside them”

Am I dreaming? Howellsy and Matty Healy working on a song together? Well I can safely say that I’m sure I’m not the only one who cannot wait for that song. And this mysterious new band? Wow, they sure kept that quiet!

What made you want to produce new music with Matty?

H – “he’s a good friend of mine, and he and the band helped me a lot when I was first signed to dirty hit records, so now that I’m up there in the music industry I thought, hey, why not feature Matty”.

How far along is the new song?

H – “well it won’t be released until the end of the tour, so you’ll have to wait *laughs* but I promise it’s a good one”.

I’m sure it is. Well Howellsy, thank you so much for letting me into your musical world today, it’s been an honour.

H – “No thank you for featuring me, the face of indie? Told you this was my year!”

Howellsy’s hit album, ‘A Divine Intervention’ is out now, and available for download. You can get it from either Howellsy’s or our website, just whatever you do, listen to it – it is a life changer! She is also touring the rest of Europe and her UK tickets are selling fast, so don’t be the one who misses out! Head over to her website now and get those tickets.

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