

Montgomery 21 Official Biography

-The Formation

Montgomery 21 was a Canadian brit-pop influenced emo band from Mississauga, Ontario, known for featuring (and mostly made up of) members of New Day Rising. Vocalist and guitarist Chris Gray formed the band in the fall of 1995, composing the core music and lyrics; with Jeff Almond on bass and Adam Bryłowski (former drummer of Unheard and guitarist in New Day Rising) on drums. The band name was influenced by a book that Chris was reading about the civil rights movement, which included a location and a chapter. After playing their first three shows in late 1995, Jeff left to dedicate his time fully to his grind-metalcore band Acrid; he was replaced by Jo-Anne Sanders, another member of New Day Rising. The band was still looking for its own sound, but when Mike DeEyre (who was playing in Louis Mistreated with Adam's brother James Brylowksi) joined on keyboards during the Christmas vacation of 1995, they quickly evolved into this incredibly melodic band they became known for. It was in thanks to him that the band managed to distance themselves from being a "New Day Rising side-project".



Montgomery 21

show, January 19th, 1996 at the Pig & Whistle Inn. With Enter the Dragon, Seer, Grade, New Day Rising and Blake.



Montgomery 21 show at "Knights of Columbia Hall", February 23rd 1996. With Acrid, Ignorance Never Settles, Enter the Dragon, Seer, Hourglass and Ember.





On June 29th 1996, Montgomery 21 played the Up The Dumper - Palooza show along with a ton of bands from the Ontario area





Montgomery 21 show at the Oakville YMCA on July 21st 1996. With 7 Years War, Waterdown and Bree



Montgomery 21 show at "The Church" on October 5th 1996. With Ignorance Never Settles, Acrid, Grade and Attack of the Hungarian Icelander.

-The First Demo

In the March Break of 1996, Montgomery 21 went to Signal 2 Noise to record their first five song demo. Over time, nearly

500 copies were made and have been mostly sold at shows. This demo came packaged in a yellow manila envelope with a booklet of some lyrics and song explanations, expressed by Chris Gray. By then Jo-Anne had quit New Day Rising to focus solely on Montgomery 21. During one of their many shows with Seer, in 1996, both bands discussed the possibility of doing a split together, using songs from each of the bands' demo tapes. However, that show ended up being Seer's final concert as they shortly afterwards broke up. The split was then to be shared with New Day Rising and Gorilla Warfare Records offered to release it, but the label bailed out.

One of the song from this first demo was also scheduled to appear on the benefit compilation for the Animal Defense League which Dave Buschemeyer was putting together throughout 1996 and 1997 but this also never got released. In the fall of 1996 New Day Rising broke up (for the first time), which allowed Chris and Adam to focus full time on Montgomery 21.

NEW DAY RISING
two split 7"s on Moo Cow Records
\$3.00 each north america, \$5.00 world • \$5.00 for both n.a., \$8.00 for both world



a split 7" with Atlas Shrugged *a split 7" with Despair*

SOON: New Day Rising / Hourglass split 12"
 a Moo Cow / Gorilla Warfare Records split label release
 other New Day Rising releases:
 2 x 7" on Upheaval • split 7" w/ Montgomery 21 on Gorilla Warfare (out summer 96)

MOO COW RECORDS • POB 616 • MADISON, WI 53701
 money orders to James Burnham • fax (608) 283-0550

New Day Rising Ad 1996

-The Second Demo

The band was getting to be so good that a lot of Chris' close friends wanted to join the band on second guitar, including Dave Buschemeyer and Mike Charette. But Chris was gathering a bit of an ego and wouldn't let a second guitar player come into the band and take anything away from his fame. In the summer of 1997 they would go back to Signal 2 Noise and record five more songs for their second demo. At the studio, they were joined by Kristina Woyzbun and Natalie Woyzbun, twin sisters who recorded the violin parts on "A December's Tale". This demo also featured two samples from movies, one from "Apocalypse Now" (1979) on "A December's Tale" and another from "Midnight Express" (1978) on track 2. By this time the band was incorporating influences from Neurosis and their shows were a hypnotic and progressive experience, often playing in near darkness. "A December's Tale" from this recording session was used on the Goodfellow Records compilation "The Difference Between Us" (1997) and remains the only officially released song by the band. Apparently this second demo was never officially released because it was only half of a full-length album's worth of material that they were working on at the time.



“The Difference Between Us” compilation. Goodfellow Records, 1997.

MONTGOMERY 21

A DECEMBER'S TALE

The snow is so cold, my body touched by a vale of black lace resting softly on my skin...four walls and a projection screen is so faithful, the undying trust of hard plaster and my still beating heart...i harden to love, i harden to need you...oh cold december how you kill me, cold winter how you mesmerize me with your pain...gentle death take me twice i trust the love, the bond is ice hard and cold but it is you, gentle death kill me twice...i love you, your body against mine is so cold, so gentle and pure, it's so cold, your the savage of all that is vengeful, and this i love you for...what a time to try to be someone, what a time to try to be something when they all want to kill you...your pain can not kill only weaken's with melted tears...

Crop of “The Difference Between Us” booklet featuring the lyrics of “A December’s Tale”. The only lyrics provided for the second demo.

PROTECT YOUR BACK - Know how to LIFT THINGS SAFELY. Two shows: One cause

January 11th 1997 6:30pm \$5
 At the Church (corner of Collegeway and Winston Churchill Blvd. Mississauga)


The Far Outs
 Eliot Rosewater
 Montgomery 21
 Shoulder Grade

January 25th 1997 7:30pm \$4
 At the YMCA (410 Rebecca St. West of Dorval, Ontario)

Mad Hatter (aka, Suby, aka!!)
 Karenza
 Blakie
 Despair

Originally, I was supposed to put out a benefit compilation for The Animal Defense League. Financial problems postponed this project and now is the time to get it rolling. The proceeds from these shows will go directly into the pressing of this record. Eventually the profits from this compilation will go directly to the Animal Defense League. Your attendance to these shows are very much appreciated by The Animal Defense League and I. Thank you

Records by the millions
COMMON PROBLEMS that affect the back:



Montgomery 21 playing at the benefit for the Animal Defense League Compilation, January 11th 1997. With Karenza, The Far Outs, Eliot Rosewater, Shoulder and Grade

shows at the church
 (corner of Winston Churchill and Collegeway, Mississauga)

Saturday, May 3, 1997 \$5
 tickets: montgomery 21 jersey
 walls of jericho grade
 a.k.a. New Day Rising starts at 7 sharp!

Saturday, May 24, 1997 \$4
 Sissy Karzoo (aka Montreal)
 karenza (aka nicholas)
 Chisel Drill Hammer (anna's best)
 8 pound test
 braid

support out of town bands fuckers!

Montgomery 21 show at The Church on May 3rd 1997. With New Day Rising, Walls of Jericho, Grade, Jersey, Racer and A.K.A.

Mississauga / Oakville Hardcore

Saturday, June 21, 1997 at the church in Mississauga
(corner of Winston Churchill and Collegeway)

Blake **ELLIOT ROSEWATER** from Toronto
Third World Planet from Toronto \$5
The Little Rock Nine from Toronto
New Day Rising from Toronto

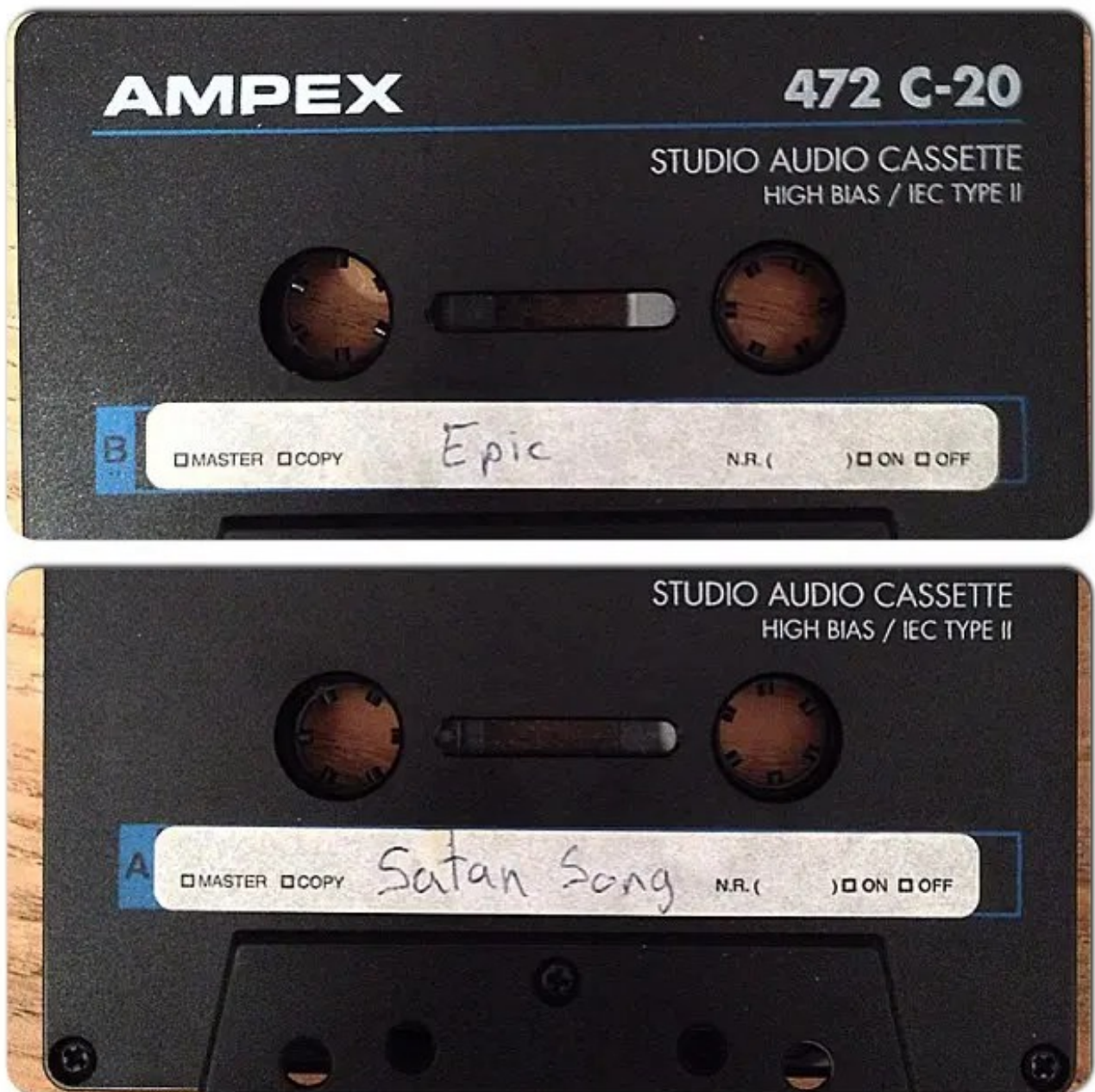
Sunday, June 22, 1997
at the YMCA in Oakville (410 Babcock from
QEW go south on Doreval, turn right on Babcock,
YMCA is on left)

karenza **Sons Of Abraham Harvest**
Morning Again Endeavor
from Toronto from Toronto
Coalesce from Toronto \$6

Punk Rock Weekend!

support touring bands!
upcoming summer shows in Miss/ Oakville:
saturday July 22 at the church (corner of Winston Churchill and Collegeway)
sunday July 27 at the YMCA (410 Babcock) aka. **Agony** **From Toronto** **From Toronto** **From Toronto** **From Toronto**

-The Third Demo



Montgomery 21's third demo

Shortly after this second demo recording session, a fan of the band offered to record some of their even newer material for a school project. One afternoon Montgomery 21 went to the Harris Institute to record "Epic" and "Satan Song", which ended up being the last two songs ever recorded by the band. By this time they were starting to integrate the style of The Cure in their music. But a combination of many events would ultimately lead the band to dissolve shortly after this recording, making it extremely rare and seldom heard. Chris Gray's persona in "his" band led Jo-Anne to quit and, as New Day Rising had

reformed earlier in the year, Adam and Chris devoted their time to it. Mike continued playing guitar in Louis Mistreated until their breakup in 2002. Chris Gray fizzed out the remainder of Montgomery 21 into what would become his next brit-pop influenced band, The China White, in the early months of 1998.

-The Discography



Montgomery 21 banner from Re-Define Records' website circa 2002. Possibly a crop from the CD artwork.

In 2001 Scott Willemsen and James Hamilton at Re-Define Records decided to attempt a Montgomery 21 discography. It was first advertised to be a 10 song anthology CD but was quickly updated to an 11 and then 12 song discography, which apparently was supposed to feature newly recorded material. Chris Gray was planning on reforming the band, with new members, to record these songs, but thankfully that did not happen. Either way, the compilation would have been missing the two songs from the last recordings sessions because Chris had since lost his tape. Apparently the label started working on the artwork but Chris Gray never sent all the songs as promised. This compilation would have never the less been great to hear, and would have probably been our only hope in hearing the original DAT quality of those recordings. The label subsequently signed Chris Gray's band at the time, Loveless .1., and a few months later Chris Gray was signed as a solo act. Chris and Mike would reunite in November 2002 for the foundation of The Black Maria.

THE SECRET'S OUT! RE-DEFINE RECORDS PRESENTS:



CONFINED THE GUNNERS / 2007 / 11 TRACKS / 45 MIN. / CD / \$14.95

This long awaited follow-up to their debut album is undoubtedly a new approach to heavy metal. TRIP HD is back with a collection of rock-making mythical tales and more. The music continues, as if the album were a page of history and legends that's slowly unfolding. You'll see that TRIP HD is back with a new sound to explore.



MONTGOMERY 21 SOULPHOENIX / 2007 / 11 TRACKS / 45 MIN. / CD / \$14.95

This CD features the band's new sound, a blend of heavy metal and rock. The CD is a blend of a hard rock sound with the heavy metal sound. The CD is a blend of a hard rock sound with the heavy metal sound. The CD is a blend of a hard rock sound with the heavy metal sound.



THE GUNNERS THE GUNNERS / 2007 / 11 TRACKS / 45 MIN. / CD / \$14.95

This is the band's first full-length album. It's a blend of heavy metal and rock. The CD is a blend of a hard rock sound with the heavy metal sound. The CD is a blend of a hard rock sound with the heavy metal sound.



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Re-Define Records ad from Full Contact Magazine

MAXINE'S VITAMINS anthology entitled "You Don't Run On Love And Records Any More" Pressed With Stripes, in a BOMBAY OVER PRODUCTIONS / CLASSIC SMOOTHER split CD, and by a HAPPY GO LUCKY "Search For The Truth" full length. You can write the band or the label at 29 Linton Ave., Ajax, ON / L1T 2V9 / e-mail: lintoncenter@hotmail.com / www.andersonrecords.com

Labels
Spreading of labels, a new label has started up by Dave Lan. The label is called Solstice. Another Records and holds the mandate, Pickering Nuclear Hardware. The first release will be a SCARE TACTIC split which is an 11 song up with 800 copies as being pressed and the only way you can get one is by writing Solstice Medical Records c/o Dave Partridge / 418 Park Cntr. / Pickering / ON / L3C 3C4 / Canada / 905-709-1111 / www.solsticerecords.com / http://www.solsticerecords.com / info@solsticerecords.com

Another new label, one has grown out of the Southern Ontario hardware store, it is called Re-Define Records. Aside from the THE END relation, Re-Define have also just put out releases by IN DYING DAYS, JERK CLUB, SOULPHOENIX, and the LITABAY, a MONTE GOMBERG 21 release is in the works, as is a COMPASSION re-release CD complete with four new songs recorded after they broke up. You can get in touch with Re-Define at 11 Linton Street Blvd. / Hamilton, ON / L8S 1V2 / e-mail: re-define@redefine.com / www.redefine.com. Damaged Records have recently released the DROTT "In the kids" ep, the HAYMARKER split, the Just It Up "Just Can't Stand It" LP, Just It Up "Just From Market" CD of the same, the up and the Damaged 12", a new Epitaph Tapes Attack "No Fucks" LP/CD, see Highbeam LP entitled "Sum Day", AND vinyl releases of the Montreal Cuck LP "No Excuses" "Keep things cooking pastries", the Last in Line "Crossroads" ep, the NEA (Harris studio) LP, the North American release of the Intensity "The Rain of Our Future" LP, and the new One Cold "We Attack of Providence" LP. In the works is the new BAY-MARKER LP/CD version of the UNLV LP, the new HACKSAW "Sweet Nothing" LP, an OUR WAR 10", the vinyl for the upcoming Along to Where "Upbeat Monday" full length, a one-sided Hyster "They Show It", a repress of the Fireback ep, and the album Packed Up ep. Damaged has also released a CD sampler available through the label only, so write Dave Dufresne at PO Box 543 / Station P / Toronto, ON / M8S 2T1 or via e-mail: damaged@outpostjournal.com / www.damagedrecords.com. International distribution can be picked up through chameleon, but I don't think this is the case for the sampler. Oh yeah and Damaged has started to branch out with co-releases getting some local bites in on the label game. Mike Hatteloch is starting up a label called Toronto Revolution and will be co-releasing a Toronto comp featuring tracks by ADEPHARY, PUCKED UP, HAYMARKER, OUR WAR, NO WARNING, SCARE TACTIC, CARLEER SLICKIE, and RICE 90. Damaged is also working with folks from our radio show on a NUN-FUCKERS discography. The NUNFUCKERS were a great poppy thrash band from the mid-80's that had made it Toronto in a place called Waterloo and sounded like a French version of the Descendents. Since we last wrote, Ugly Pop Head has released the First Dreamer Dates 7", the Rose Flower re-release, the Phoenix vinyl issue, the Stripes ep, and an incredible Hyster "They Show type band from Sudbourn called DCA. Records about to be released include a new Dream Dates 7" entitled "The New Year Is", and a Warhead LP from Japan featuring the vinyl pressing of their '93 CD and the '95 ep entitled "Lost

Self and Shouting Heart". I also think that the December 6th band camp is still in the works along with some other killer plans, but some of this stuff has not been confirmed just yet. To get in touch with Ugly Pop you can write 2 Bloor St West, Suite 100 Box 477 / Toronto, ON / M4W 1E2 / e-mail: uglypop@outpostjournal.com / www.uglypop.com. Damage are now just doing the label and the radio show full time. They have added some new bands to their list and will see upcoming releases by: 1) FOUR SQUARE (members of TRIGGER HAPPY, TWO LINE FILLER, TRASH! CHARGED, and THE WEAK-ERDIANS); 2) THE CARBONS (members from ALL SYSTEMS GO! ep); 3) DEAD LETTER DEPT. (with STIFFS); 4) THE MELBROVE BAND, and maybe 5) THE MOOPS full length. You can make sure to check via PO Box 543, 1057 Station Ave. W./ North York, ON / M8B 1X1 / e-mail: info@damaged.com / www.damaged.com. And the radio show is still twice every Wednesday at 1pm, hosted by Leonard and Kat. Newspaper Records & Publishing continues to hold down the post-metal street push fort. Since the classic Re-release, the label has released a 11 Brigade (Harris Music CD from France), 10 CLASS ASSASSINS "No Justice, No Peace" ep, 10 Stage Battles "I'll Live my Life" CD, 10 a Stage Battles discography, and 11 the second treatment of "Class Fide, World Wide". For more information write 2 Bloor Street West, Suite 100-504 / Toronto, ON / M4W 1E2 / e-mail: info@newspaper.net / www.newspaper.net. Just Head Records is no longer starting up for us in London on the King Street. Darius CD is distributed by the Toronto - Montreal comp camp came out. Damaged Plus Records has just released a full length CD from THE CLASS. Covering some full length CDs from BATTLESTAR and A.D. and adds with the MURDERSHIELD EP and SPANKER and the MURDERSHIELD TO, and Dave Dufresne (the one and only). You can write Damaged Plus Records at 28 Brookfield St. / Toronto, ON / M4M 1G9 / e-mail: post@damagedplus.com. He has lots of other material available on his website and he can take credit card orders to check out www.damagedplus.com. Solstice/Phoenix Records have released the LITABAY "Rain the Gun" CD, both releases of the "Last Winter Christmas" BCT re-release and the LITABAY/Back Turret (Harris) split LP. I think a SLANG "No Doubt/No Doubt" CD is in the works, as is the "Toronto Hardware" comp, a 9 Stripes Tapes / Back Turret split, and an Archaic / GOSH vinyl project split release. Cing is also in work on the next two BCT releases which will be "Fire Strike" and "On Back Naked". Solstice/Phoenix can be reached through Cing Culture at 50 Fiddling Crn. / Hamilton, ON / L9V 2P9 or e-mail: cing@cing.ca. There is a new website for Solstice/Phoenix at www.solsticephoenixrecords.com. Solstice/Phoenix also has a website with cheap stuff listed so you can order other things. Four of Bad Productions (FOUR) is competing for the next all Canadian comp to be entitled "Always Sounding Off". Also in the works is a split 7" with the TRINETICS (Oshawa) and Nakatone Plains (New York). The Dusk / Country split LP is out, as is the Dusk CD. Chris has just started doing a radio show at CIBC 101.6FM in the Kitchener area. See the listing for "Imperfection Hours" below. To get in touch with FOUP about the comp or his show you can write 5-225 Bognor St. / Kingston, ON / K7L 3H3 / e-mail: the1016fm@badproductions.com / www.fourbadproductions.com. There is a good label in the Windsor area called South of Revolution. Aside from just re-releasing the recent REVISION split with SEABUCKING FOR CHIN, they have just released another power packed split with DRUNKEN ORGY OF DESTRUCTION / PROJECT GRIZZLY (THEY LIVE) split ep. Also the new HEROD CD is out. In the works is a sampler CD, 11 a 1P" pressing of the

mentioning Montgomery 21 as part of Re-Define Records' roster.

Download the complete Montgomery 21 discography

-List Of Shows (work-in-progress)

1. 1996-01-19 Pig & Whistle Inn (Burlington, ON) Enter The Dragon, Seer, Grade, New Day Rising, Blake, Threshold
2. ~~1996-02-23 Pig & Whistle Inn (Oakville, ON) Enter The Dragon, Seer, Acrid, Ignorance Never Settles, Threshold~~
3. 1996-02-23 Knights of Columbus Hall (Oakville, ON) Enter The Dragon, Seer, Acrid, Ignorance Never Settles, Hourglass, Ember
4. 1996-05-10 The Shrine Club (Woodstock, ON) New Day Rising, Hourglass, Gates Of Dawn, Linton, Drive By
5. 1996-06-21 Oakville YMCA (Oakville, ON) 7 Years War, Watership Down, Bree
6. 1996-06-29 Oakville YMCA (Oakville, ON) Grade, Shoulder, Blake, Gates Of Dawn, Thrown, Seer, Sprucehill, New Day Rising, Hourglass, Acrid, Chauvez, Springseed, My Ass, Dear Departed
7. 1996-10-05 Erin Mills United Church (Mississauga, ON) Grade, Ignorance Never Settles, Attack Of The Hungarian Icelanders, Acrid, Taylor Bryow
8. 1996-12-06 The Korova Cafe (Kitchener, ON) New Day Rising, Shoulder, Swing-Shift
9. 1997-01-11 Erin Mills United Church (Mississauga, ON) The Far Outs, Eliot Rosewater, Shoulder, Grade
10. 1997-05-03 Erin Mills United Church (Mississauga, ON) Racer, Jersey, Walls Of Jericho, Grade, New Day Rising, A.K.A.
11. 1997-07-22 Erin Mills United Church (Mississauga, ON) Blake, Sleepytime Trio, Joan Of Arc, Four Hundred Years