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## A woman on a mission

*Rebecca Torrellas is in pursuit of a rock 'n roll dream*

By Kelly Preiser  
October 11, 2001

From the time Rebecca Torrellas was a young girl, she knew she would end up in show business.

"I've had an interest in music since I was four," Torrellas said. "I'd write songs (in Spanish at the time) and my cousins and I would perform them in shows for our family."

Torrellas was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, and began performing as a dancer for a children's program in Puerto Rico at age six.

Torrellas moved to Texas when she was nine years old. She attended Texas A&M and graduated in 1998 with a journalism degree and currently works in Houston as a marketing and public relations coordinator, but said her goal is to have a career in music.

"I can't imagine myself doing anything the rest of my life with as much passion as I have doing music," Torrellas said.

Torrellas began her career in the music business in 1996 when a friend heard her sing at an Alanis Morissette concert and asked her if she was interested in starting a band. Soon, the band Spencer's Rocket was formed. It was a local, alternative rock cover band that featured songs by artists like Morissette, Stone Temple Pilots, No Doubt and The Cranberries, and songs written by the band. Spencer's Rocket broke up in Oct. 1998.

About one month later, Torrellas decided to become a solo artist with the encouragement of local band Linus' front man, friend and ex-boyfriend, Chris Pate.

"Chris started encouraging me to record a demo at a studio in Friendswood (Texas) with session musicians and be a solo artist," Torrellas said. "After a little bit of pushing on his part, I met with producer Kevin Bomar and my co-writer on most of my tunes, Chris Howland, also drummer, producer, back-up singer, keyboardist, guitarist, bassist, percussionist and the guy who kept me mentally stable during most of my long hours at the studio, at South Coast Recorders in Friendswood, Texas, and finally decided to go for it."

No Hard Feelings, Torrellas' debut CD, was released in Aug. 2001 after two years of work. Torrellas said most of the music on the CD is inspired

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by her own feelings and by events in her life.

"I'd say lyrically, the album is about self discovery and beating the odds," she said. "I think the listener can tell by the lyrics that I'm trying to get comfortable in my own skin as a flawed and vulnerable individual. Through heartbreaks and disappointments, I've learned a lot more about myself, and I hope people can relate to that.

"Most of the songs on the CD are inspired by true events in my life," Torrellas said. "No Hard Feelings is almost like a journal of my life from 1997 to 2000. It's a way for me to release anger, uncertainty, stress, joy or any emotion I may be feeling."

For example, Torrellas said that the song, "What is it now" was written a few days after her graduation from A&M because she was busy applying for jobs and not hearing from any of the companies. "Only to you," she said, was written after her heart was broken the first time she was involved in a serious relationship. "Brave in the Soul" was written after the 15-year-old daughter of a friend of her mother's committed suicide. The song "Never got to say Goodbye" was written after the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse and also is dedicated a co-worker and friend of hers who passed away on his birthday.

Torrellas said that musically, the album is more eclectic. She said some of the songs are fast-beat, edgy and crunchy sounding while others are tame during the verses and strong in the choruses, while others are more acoustic-based and some are considered ballads.

She said her musical influences include Pat Benatar, Morisette, Joni Mitchell and Aerosmith. She compares herself to "either Pat Benatar or a less-angry Alanis Morisette from her Jagged Little Pill days."

Torrellas is scheduled to perform at the Third Floor Cantina at 10:30 p.m. She said she is looking forward to coming back to College Station and to the Third Floor, where she performed frequently with Spencer's Rocket.

"College Station is a great place for live music," she said. "I'm looking forward to going back to the Third Floor after years of not being there. I'm definitely looking forward to it. I am nervous because it's been so long since I've played in College Station, but I'm ready to come back."

Torellas said her performance at the show depends a lot on what the audience is like.

"I don't sit still very much," she said. "It pretty much depends on the song. At times I could be dancing. Other times I'm jumping around or head banging. It has a lot to do with the song as well as the vibe from the audience."

Audiences can expect a high-energy, fun show with eclectic music and tunes ranging from rock and alternative rock to acoustic and punk, Torellas said.

"We will be playing songs form No Hard Feelings but also add some new songs I've written as well as a few Spencer's Rocket classics."

For more information about Torrellas, visit [rebecca.hispeed.com](http://rebecca.hispeed.com). ■

## A woman on a mission

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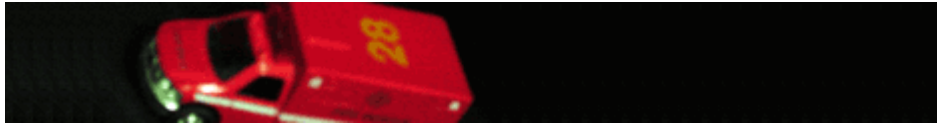
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