

Maggie Cocco Interview Transcript:

Sara Nishikawa (she/her): Welcome to CultureSource's Music Moment. Today we will be hearing from Maggie Cocco, Digital Programming and Board Member at Girls Rock Detroit.

Sara Nishikawa (she/her): What was your first album when do you use when you think about that album When does it come up in your life just want to hear more about that.

Maggie (she/her): So, when you say your first album I always think like the first album that I released, but I know that you mean the first album that I like bought or listen to, or something like that so i'll answer the question as intended, I just wanted to note that I had to translate that for my brain. And I don't really remember the first one that I bought, but I do remember i'm being really excited about my family coming home, this is pre me having money, so I must have been quite young, but I do remember my family coming home with the Celine Dion's greatest hits and that was just a very natural transition from loving Disney to like loving a specific artist if that makes sense and Celine Dion is very dynamic in her vocal expression, and also in the arrangements of her music, and so I I think I take a lot of that into what I do now as an artist just love dynamics.

Maggie (she/her): More the concept of the feeling it was very, very present when I was young, and so it's going to be very strongly there in the background and it's not until something external is like celine in your face, which sometimes happens because leans a superstar that I go oh yeah I resonate with that.

Sara Nishikawa (she/her): yeah so, how does music play a role in your life up outside of work, I know it might be all mishmash together, but you know if you could separate it how, how does it yeah.

Maggie (she/her): Um, if I could separate it I don't know because I can't just they've never been separated for me in my life, but I would say it's integral to how I connect with people in the world, but also with how other people connect to me, and maybe more importantly, without other people connect to me because i'm always out there, my outward face to the world is, i'm a musician and so for other people because everybody has a connection to music and when you're meeting someone for the first time or connecting with someone you're always looking for the way to connect with them, that is their connection to me. So, whether they're a musician or not they're going you're a musician you're a music person, this is how I connected music and therefore this is how i'm going to connect to you so yeah it's just integral.

Sara Nishikawa (she/her): And then last question, I had was a you know, a pretty straightforward one a who directly influenced your passion for music and I think you know, yes i'm sure musicians, but maybe somebody more personal and your life?

Maggie (she/her): what's interesting is as a professional musician i've had people in my life, who have been supportive and people who've not been supportive, but also people who've been supportive in some ways, but not another's and then vice versa, so I think i've always, um, music, has always been the motivator for me so i've always taken whatever I needed or wanted to hear from that so if it was something where I needed to work someone was being supportive and I wanted to take that support from it than I did, and if someone was not being supportive

and I needed that to be a motivator then that became a motivator in itself that kind of like i'm going to prove you wrong kind of thing. So I think I was influenced by the same way that everybody else's by what my parents listen to and people i've dated and things like that, but as a musician i've always found a way to spin it to in music favor because i'm i'm intrinsically motivated by music like once I became a champion of it that was it.

Sara Nishikawa (she/her): I want to ask another one um, can you tell me about your favorite live concert that you've been to or because you're a musician played at.

Maggie (she/her): It's more like recollections of feelings, you know that I have still when I meet those musicians again and and think or see those audiences again.

Maggie (she/her): it's gonna be a girls rock Detroit playlist so it's going to feature songs by female and gender non binary artists that are Detroit based or that are affiliated with girls Rock in some way so that have taught workshops, for us, or things like that.