

Arden enjoys venue and audience

By Beth Mally
SPECIAL TO THE BEAVER

Jann Arden shook things up Saturday night when she took the main stage at the 10th annual Oakville Waterfront Festival.

Beginning the set with her trademark sense of humour, Arden cheerfully asked the sizeable crowd for suggestions and requests. "My God, we sure didn't expect to see this many people. You sure you're here on the right night?" she asked, noting that it was the biggest crowd she'd ever entertained.

Starting off with a mixture of new and old material, the popular vocalist delighted and entranced the crowd at Coronation Park with her stunning vocals and passionate lyrics. She was apparently taken with Coronation Park as well.

"I don't think we've played in a prettier place. Look, even the trees are doing the wave." After singing her international hit *Insensitive* with an

almost a cappella sound and classical guitar, Arden joked with the crowd about her melancholy lyrics, "We're still on the theme of breaking up, we'll go back to falling in love later...It's all downhill from here."

Halfway through the show, Arden told the audience that she would rather just "skip" the encore after the show and play right through to the fireworks, "instead of me frizzing around backstage waiting to come back, and we all know I'm coming back."

Towards the end of the evening, the singer swept the crowd to their feet with a medley of *I Will Survive*, *Stayin' Alive*, *Does Your Mother Know You're Out?* and *Wild Thing*. Finishing off the night with an extended version of *Good Mother*, Arden inspired the crowd with her hopeful sentiments, "You do have the ability to change the world. Find peace in yourself, find something you love to do and do it. Don't let anyone tell you you can't. Just be yourself."

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