

## NI ROCKS Interview with AMANDA SOMERVILLE

Written by NI ROCKS

Wednesday, 20 May 2015 02:19 - Last Updated Saturday, 25 July 2015 22:34

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Singer Amanda Somerville has been involved in many projects as well as releasing her own solo albums and fronting her own band, Trillium. In April, the second album from Kiske Somerville was released through Frontiers Records. "City of Heroes" once again saw Somerville working with Michael Kiske (formerly of Helloween) and Primal Fear members Mat Sinner and Magnus Karlsson. I spoke to Amanda about her work via Skype on 19th May and this interview was broadcast on the Friday NI Rocks Show on 22nd May. This show can be heard on the NI Rocks MixCloud page -

[Interview with Amanda Somerville on the Friday NI Rocks Show 22nd May 2015](#) by [Nirocks](#)  
on  
[Mixcloud](#)

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Album recommendation - <http://www.rockradioni.co.uk/back-stage/music-reviews/1870-ni-rocks-recommends-qcity-of-heroesq-by-kiskesomerville.html>

**NI ROCKS** – Amanda, thanks for taking some time to talk to Rock Radio NI. I wanted to talk first about the release of the second Kiske / Somerville album “City of Heroes” in April. The first album with Michael Kiske had been released back in 2010. Had it always been the hope to record a further album?

**AMANDA-** Thanks for having me. Yeah definitely. Of course it’s never a given in this scene or business, so we had to go on sales, the response and everything and that was great for the first release so we were really happy. That was all the reason we needed to continue.

**NI ROCKS-** Mat Sinner and Magnus Karlsson are credited with much of the writing and production of the album. How much input did you have to the song writing and recording process this time around?

**AMANDA** – Well fortunately I’m given quite a bit of creative liberty. So if there are things I want to change lyrically or the part designation even. I did a lot of that after Mat had sent me the demos. We would have Skype sessions and discuss things. It’s really important for me to have some creative input, particularly as it’s my name, together with Michael’s, on the cover. I don’t want to just be a voice. That’s fine if I’m just a voice on something that I’m doing a guest appearance on, and it’s just like being a guest in somebody’s house, but this is my name on the cover. It’s really nice that I can have some of my songs on the album and have a say in the songs of Mat and Magnus. That’s really important.

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**NI ROCKS** – Did you all come together in the studio at the same time or was it a case of everyone recording their bit separately.

**AMANDA** – Yeah, as many projects are these days, it was a long-distance puzzle, patchwork kind of thing. But funny enough, having said that, I felt that it was much more of a team project for this album, even though we were all doing our own things in our little satellite studios around the world, than it was for the first one. I went to Stuttgart and recorded in a studio there with Mat Sinner for the debut album, but I'd never worked with either Mat or Michael face to face before. So I didn't know what to expect and was a little nervous and wanted to do everything right. Since then, Mat and I have toured extensively with "Rock Meets Classic", Michael and I have toured all over the world. It felt much more like a family project for this album and that was really cool.

**NI ROCKS** – We're going to play a track from the album now. Would you like to pick a track, tell us a little about it and introduce it for us?

**AMANDA** – Oh man, it's so hard for me to pick one!

**NI ROCKS** – You'll get to pick three if that makes it easier!

**AMANDA** – Ok then, I'll say "Right Now" which is the final track on the album and one I really like.

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