

MUSIC IN FILM

A wish and The Prayer

BRENDA ANDERSON
Times Reporter

When it comes to making plans for the weekend, most 20-year-olds don't figure on a last-minute invitation to perform in front of a sold-out house for a world-famous composer and music producer.

But Tiffany Desrosiers is far from typical.

Following an 11th-hour phone call from Vancouver-based music producer Su Bailey, the young Langley vocalist was on her way to perform *The Prayer*, Feb. 3, alongside Fort. St. James' Cody Karey, during "An Evening with David Foster." The night was part of Victoria's Independent Film and Video Festival.

Karey, 16, was a regional finalist in the David Foster Star Search competition, where contestants vied for a chance to perform at a celebrity-laden September 2006 gala in support of Foster's charity, benefitting families of children undergoing organ transplants.

Desrosiers was named first runner up in another of the Star Search regional competitions, held in Victoria.

Despite never having sung together before, or ever having met, for that matter, the duo received high praise for their performance in Victoria last weekend.

"They nailed it. They got a standing ovation," reported Bailey.

The evening included a question and answer session between Foster and West Coast actor/music journalist Terry David Mulligan, along with performances of movie music composed by Foster.

"He wanted some young performers involved, because that's what David's all about," said Bailey.

Foster selected *The Prayer* and *I Will Always Love You*, because both songs appear on the soundtracks of motion pictures, she explained.

The Prayer, by Celine Dion and



Langley's Tiffany Desrosiers sang *The Prayer* for David Foster and 400 guests in Victoria Feb. 3.



David Foster



Cody Karey

Andrea Bocelli, was featured in 1998's animated feature *Quest for Camelot*, and *I Will Always Love You*, was made famous by Whitney Houston during her turn as a diva under duress in *The Bodyguard* (1992).

The young singers were obvious choices for the duet because of their solid, pop-opera vocal style, explained Bailey.

Both Karey and Desrosiers impressed the producer with their professionalism throughout the last-minute affair.

"I got the call on Wednesday and had Cody fly in," explained Bailey.

"They'd never met. They were great, stunning.

"They rehearsed and they rehearsed and they rehearsed.

"They both have (music) careers ahead of them. It's just a matter of which way (stylistically) they go."

This wasn't Desrosiers' first encounter with the difficult song.

"I'd sung it a year or two before at a wedding," she said.

"My Italian was rusty, so I had to relearn that."

Despite the four-year age gap, in Karey, the Langley woman found a more-than-capable partner.

"Cody knows the song cold," said Desrosiers.

"It went really well the first time through, thank goodness."

"He has such a great voice. By the second time through, we had it."

After that, she said, it was just a matter of getting their harmonies to click with the music track and aligning their Italian vowels.

As unlooked-for an opportunity as it was, Desrosiers has no idea whether she will be given another chance to perform in front of the music mogul.

But, she added, if David Foster's Star Search returns for a second season this summer, she's "definitely interested in trying out" again.

In the meantime, the singer is studying music at Trinity Western University and has recorded two songs which she hopes to get into rotation on radio.

Saturday's performance can be viewed on Desrosiers' MySpace website at www.myspace.com/tiffanydesrosiers.