



## Music

Monday, February 12, 2007

### We Hear It Live: Lily Allen

I've been pretty much obsessed with [Lily Allen's](#) debut album, *Alright, Still*, since I first heard it last July, so there was no way I was missing her first major New York City gig at **Webster Hall** on Saturday. And despite rumors of a rather mediocre performance last fall at **Hiro** and a lackluster *SNL* performance last weekend, I (and a sold-out crowd) was ecstatic when Lily brought it to a packed house.

Backed by a full band (including a group of adorable horn players who looked like they had been plucked from the nearest high school), Allen opened with her UK hit "LDN" then made her way through the album—throwing in two of her best known covers, **Keane's** "Everything's Changing" and **The Kooks'** "Naïve," along with a few lesser-known songs like "Absolutely Nothing" off the *Smile* EP.

All was good and well until she burst into a fit of giggles and told the audience her stomach was a bit upset after eating a shepherd's pie from New York restaurant **Tea & Sympathy** earlier that day. Thirty minutes later she whipped out a cig during the encore—fittingly, on the stoner-ditty "Alfie."

Let's just say there are very few musicians who can make burping and smoking look cheeky and adorable. Lucky for Lily, she's one of the few—and it only made the crowd love her more. Expect big things from her in the coming months, and check out the new video for "Alfie" below.

-Robin Monheit

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