

# ROCH VOISINE STEALS HEARTS...

Posted By Rob Reid

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It started slowly-quietly almost, and then it began. Just a few giggles and a smile here and there. Some polite applause. A whistle. Then another whistle. Still a louder whistle followed by a hoot. From somewhere near the front of the full house, a spirited "wolf" whistle-apparently from some over-enthusiastic fan.

**Roch Voisine**- that handsome, square-jawed, dark-haired, young man from New Brunswick, with the good looks of a runway model, took total control of the Casino Rama Stage.

Oh yes, he can really sing too.  
My, but that man can sing.  
With his whole heart!

Clear and high and warm and full of emotion. Sometimes in French. Mostly in English with a smattering of Italian. Some members of the audience were swooning at this point. It was difficult to tell in the dark but I would have to say in my little corner of the Rock Voisine world, there was definite swooning. A happy kind of appreciation for all things "beautiful".

Mr. Voisine sang the hits like *Deliver Me* and *Helene* and *I'll Always Be There*. He paid tribute to his Grandparents. His Grandfather passing in 1999 his Grandmother just this past summer. I swear I could see them dancing to his right, deep in the shadows of the stage lights.

He sang us a song he sings to his children at bedtime and told us he hoped they were "tucked" in. How warm and fuzzy.

He shared the reason for the "weird" hand and arm gestures that peppered the concert. "No, I'm not waving at you!"-he chuckled. Dimples aglow. Matinee Idol good looks in check. Apparently this hearty Acadian Lad went on a long snowmobile ride with a friend earlier in the week and caused some damage to his arms and fingers as he was gripping the "handlebars" for an extended time.

A physiotherapist gave him some drugs and exercises that involved flaying his arms and fingers about after nearly every song.

Let me tell you Roch and his band pulled out all the stops for this concert. He seemed surprised at the size of the audience, squinting into the lights several times trying to see into the murky darkness. He was humble and he was shy, yet when he and the boys received thunderous applause after his encore of *Helene* and **I'll Always Be There**, it was nothing short of spectacular. Eventually, he left the safety of his microphone stand and walked to the edge of the stage as he sang gripping a hand-held microphone.

Roch- in black slacks and charcoal shirt-open at the throat revealing a faint wisp of black chest hair, touched a few hundred hands and hearts. His smile was so broad, it barely fit on the jumbo screens on either side of the stage.

Roch worked hard at this one. From the hushed entrance, singing a quiet song-in French, in the relative safety of the darkness of shadows (many in the audience seemed to be mesmerized at the humble beginning to this concert. I'm still not sure that the majority realized it was Roch Voisine up there) to the finale that blew the audience every which way-and loose, that saw a hundred fans crowding the stage.

Roch had us all right there, on the tips of his nicely-manicured fingers.

Good job. Terrific performer. Beautiful Voice.  
Final Show tonight!

More review and pictures on [www.swisssh.ca](http://www.swisssh.ca)  
Roch's Website: [www.rochvoisine.com](http://www.rochvoisine.com)