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LEWISTON-AUBURN

Jim Howaniec, two other musician lawyers release debut al

Community: **Lewiston**

Posted July 22, 2015 **Kathryn Skelton, Staff Writer**

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LEWISTON — The title track, "Andreita," has shades of Paul Simon. "Me and the Moon" goes a little country

"Batman in Pacific Palisades" is as dance-worthy as three acoustic guitars can get.

After five years of playing together, lawyers Jim Howaniec, Steve Brochu and Stephen Dassatti released a new C

Next up: Agreeing on a band name. After that, maybe a first gig.

Howaniec, a former Lewiston mayor, author and defense attorney, wrote the lyrics. Brochu, a defense attorney in Cumberland County, sings backup vocals with Howaniec.

For 21 years, Dassatti has also belonged to a band with Lewiston Judge John Beliveau, a jazz group named The L

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Much like The Lost Trio, Dassatti said, this new band won't be taking any legal-inspired names.

"The kiss of death is if you say you're a bunch of lawyers making music," Dassatti said. "I remember back in the
would go see them."

Howaniec said the past 10 years of personal history inspired many of the songs. "Andreita" was the first song he
was a tribute to his father, a World War II veteran.

"Batman" was based on meeting Adam West, TV's original "Batman," who came to Lewiston in 1992 as a guest

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We're gonna get wild tonight/

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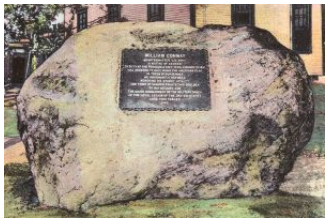
"He was the former mayor of Pacific Palisades, Calif., so we kind of bonded," Howaniec said. "He was very nice

The unnamed band practices together once a week, as time allows, in Howaniec's living room, which they've d

"It's really fun to collaborate," said Brochu, who released a solo CD 15 years ago.

Most of the songs on "Andreita" were recorded over the past two to three years. It was mastered at The Studio i
small details.

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"It's something that we wanted to do for a while," Howaniec said. "Our goal was always to put together someth
years to do."

The album, which Howaniec said he's been told will get airplay on WBLM's "Greetings From Area Code 207"

fast enough to dance to, but not hold-up-a-lighter slow. The second half adds a little more heat — and country.

"It's pretty eclectic," Dassatti said. "It reflects the musical tastes of three different people."

Growing up, Howaniec and his brothers went to see Queen, ZZ Top, Alice Cooper, Bruce Springsteen and the

"I literally like all music," he said. "I'll listen to anything from German death metal to Puccini."

The group has another 20 original songs ready to record for a second album. Howaniec, who sings on "Much N
getting on stage to perform is another matter.

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"That would be pretty terrifying, to be perfectly honest," he said. "I've never done anything like this. I've alway

But, maybe.

First, they hope to settle on a name, and then a website to sell the newly minted CD.

"It's been fun," Howaniec said. "It's sort of a good release. While I enjoy criminal defense work, it can tend to l
to relieve stress levels."

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