

Humans of Sheffield: Naomi Mann



When 19-year-old Naomi Mann was asked to describe herself in three words, she chose *'not very tall'*. It's her relatable nature and brilliant stage personality that is pushing the six-piece girlband The Seamonsters (for which she is the lead singer) into a spotlight in the music industry.

The band was set up when Naomi and the other girls were just 13/14 years old, after they'd watched loads of boys of the same age were getting into bands, so they decided it was something they wanted to try themselves. Naomi had *"always loved singing and song writing"* so it made sense that she took her place as the band's frontwoman.

Since the release of their first single in October of last year, Naomi has led The Seamonsters to release two more singles, go on a world tour, and perform at Sheffield music festival Tramlines. I asked her how it felt playing a festival in her home city: *"The atmosphere was just amazing, it's a moment I'll never forget."*



As for new music, they have some new stuff *"coming very soon"* with *"strong feminist messages in the lyrics"* and an album? Well it's something they're working towards in the future.

Describing herself as a feminist, Naomi thinks that feminism should be as simple as *"equality for both women and men"* and with her position in The Seamonsters she wants to *"encourage girls in any creative industry to not feel knocked down by sexism but feel determined to prove people wrong."* As the frontwoman of a young girlband, Naomi tells me that she *'often feels out of place as most of our gigs involve exclusively male musicians and singers'* but she doesn't let this stop her enjoying the best part of being in a band: *"being able to perform across the country with my best friends."*



As for where style is concerned, Naomi cites her personal style icons as *"Audrey Hepburn, Brigitte Bardot and Alexa Chung"* and she chooses her stage outfits to balance comfort and style. However, despite her love for vintage styles, The Seamonsters stage aesthetic is influenced by another girl band, The Spice Girls, but they certainly aren't wannabes.

You can go see Naomi perform with the rest of The Seamonsters at Hope Works, Sheffield, on November 3rd.