

Folk Music Ontario Conference 2023

London, ON October 12-15



WELCOME TO LONDON

Canada's UNESCO City of Music

For thousands of years, London has been home to creators. That is why it is so important to acknowledge the land we call London is on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples. Generations have gathered in this area to share music, culture and profound connections to the land. As a UNESCO City of Music, it remains a priority to create and maintain sustainable and equitable practices. This is why we are so excited to collaborate with our friends at Folk Music Ontario.

With this unique UNESCO designation, London is part of the largest cultural network on the planet, the UNESCO Creative Cities Network. We are also developing a more robust, culturally diverse and enriched community with music playing a guiding role in plans at a local and international level. The folk music community is comprised of so many incredible people who embody the goals of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network and align with London's vision.

We are thrilled to host everyone in London once again. We hope you have an enjoyable 2023 Folk Music Ontario Conference.

LondonCityofMusic.ca



FMO 2023/24



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Cécile Doo-Kingué

VICE PRESIDENT

Cassidy Houston

TREASURER

Umair Jaffar

SECRETARY

Tara Williamson

DIRECTORS

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Sherry Sinclair

Candace Shaw

Rachel Petersen

Chris Greencorn

Shakura S'Aida

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Rachel Barreca

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Alex Sinclair

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Folk Music Ontario Conference 2023 Design Concept by Jaymie Karn www.jaymiekarn.ca. Conference Guide Materials Design and Layout by Lisa Palfrey.

We acknowledge that we are gathered today on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (AUh-nish-in-ah-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Lunaapéewak (Len-ah-pay-wuk) and Attawandaron (Add-a-won-da-run).

We acknowledge all the treaties that are specific to this area: the Two Row Wampum Belt Treaty of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy/Silver Covenant Chain; the Beaver Hunting Grounds of the Haudenosaunee NANFAN Treaty of 1701; the McKee Treaty of 1790, the London Township Treaty of 1796, the Huron Tract Treaty of 1827, with the Anishinaabeg, and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum of the Anishnaabek and Haudenosaunee.

This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors to

society. We hold all that is in the natural world in our highest esteem and give honor to the wonderment of all things within Creation. We bring our minds together as one to share good words, thoughts, feelings and sincerely send them out to each other and to all parts of creation. We are grateful for the natural gifts in our world, and we encourage everyone to be faithful to the natural laws of Creation.

The three Indigenous Nations that are neighbours to London are the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation; Oneida Nation of the Thames; and the Munsee-Delaware Nation who all continue to live as sovereign Nations with individual and unique languages, cultures and customs.

This Land Acknowledgement is a small step towards reconciliation. It is the work of all citizens to step towards decolonizing practices and bringing our awareness into action. We encourage everyone to be informed about the traditional lands, Treaties, history, and cultures of the Indigenous people local to their region and throughout Turtle Island.

2023 SPONSORSHIP

Folk Music Ontario gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the following organizations

FUNDERS, SPONSORS, AND PARTNERS



This project is supported in part by a contribution from Global Affairs Canada's CanExport Associations program and Ontario Creates



PLATINUM

GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CÉCILE DOO-KINGUÉ

Greetings, good people!

With a smiling soul and hopeful spirit, I welcome you to this year's FMO conference.

Thanks to all of you for your contribution to our community's healing process, not only by your presence but through your musical endeavors, be they manifested on or off stage. Your participation is invaluable and essential to our solidifying and redefining our role in the cultural landscape and in the music industry. One of the positives to stem from the past few years is the collective realization that isolation is not viable. We need each other to survive, thrive and move forward, as was demonstrated through the number of individual and joint efforts to stay connected virtually as well as by the overwhelming conference attendance last and this year.

In this spirit, I wish you a joyful and inspiring 2023 FMO full of new friendships, discoveries, beautiful encounters and perspectives you hadn't yet imagined, and, of course, plenty of music.

Have a great family reunion!

Bonjour belles gens!

C'est avec l'âme souriante et l'esprit plein d'espoir que je vous souhaite la bienvenue à cette édition de la conférence FMO.

Merci à vous tous.tes pour votre contribution à la remise sur pied de notre communauté, non seulement par votre présence mais par tous vos efforts reliés à la musique, qu'ils se manifestent sur scène ou en coulisse. Votre participation est inestimable et essentielle aux rétablissement et confirmation de notre rôle dans le paysage culturel et plus particulièrement, dans le domaine de la musique. L'un des bienfaits des dernières années est la prise de conscience collective que l'isolement n'est pas une option viable. L'union et la coopération sont indispensables à notre survie, à notre épanouissement et à notre capacité d'aller de l'avant, tel que démontré par les multiples tentatives de rapprochement virtuel et le nombre impressionnant de participants aux conférences actuelle et de l'année passée.

C'est dans cet esprit que je vous souhaite une FMO 2023 pleine de joie, de nouvelles amitiés, de découvertes, de belles rencontres et de perspectives que vous ne pouviez vous imaginer et, bien sûr, pleine de musique.

Bonne réunion de famille!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



ROSALYN DENNETT

Dear Folk Music Ontario Conference Delegates,

On behalf of Folk Music Ontario, it is my utmost pleasure to welcome you to the 2023 Folk Music Ontario Conference. We are delighted to have you join us in this vibrant celebration of folk music artistry and industry.

We would like to acknowledge the traditional and contemporary stewards of this land, the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Attawandaron First Nations, as we gather on their territory.

Thank you to the City of London, Tourism London, and London's Music Development Office, for their unwavering support. It's been marvellous to witness their commitment to developing and elevating the city's music community, as Canada's only UNESCO City of Music.

This event would not be possible without the steadfast support of our dedicated funders, sponsors, and partners who share our passion for music's transformative power and understand its crucial economic impact. Your generous contributions have made this event a reality, and we are deeply grateful.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the staff and volunteers who are working tirelessly to ensure the success of this event, and to our dedicated board of directors, whose passion for the folk music community is the guiding force behind our mission.

Music has the power to unite, inspire, and heal. As we come together over the next few days, let's remember the responsibility we hold as change-makers, soul-shakers, and caretakers. Let's revel in the harmony, breathe through the dissonance, and cherish the diversity of our world, as we work together to make it a better place.



ADRIAN SUTHERLAND

ROOTS-ROCK FROM CANADA'S FAR NORTH



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FMO COMMUNITY FOLK FEST



Folk Music Ontario (FMO) is bringing the joy of folk music to the heart of London with the FMO Community Folk Fest, a three-day mini-festival from October 12 to 14, 2023. Located at Market Lane and The Good Foundation Inc. Theatre at Fanshawe College, this event offers 12 free concerts to the London community. This celebration of folk music coincides with the annual Folk Music Ontario Conference, the largest gathering of the professional folk music community in Canada, happening in London from October 12 to 15.

This exciting event is made possible through a collaborative effort with local partners, including the London Music Office, Tourism London, Fanshawe College, London Brewing Coop, Sunfest London, and The Cuckoo's Nest Folk Club. The festival promises an array of performances by folk artists from around the world and across Canada, along with showcasing the incredible homegrown talent from London. In a city recognized as Canada's only UNESCO City of Music, the FMO Community Folk Fest invites everyone to come and experience the magic of folk music, bringing people together through the power of song and storytelling.

THE FMO
**COMMUNITY
 FOLK
 FEST**

OCTOBER 12-14, 2023
 Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30
FOLK-FEST.ORG



PRESENTED BY
**LONDON UNESCO
 CITY OF MUSIC**

THU. OCT 12

OH, BERLIN
**CHARM of
 FINCHES**
**RONJA
 MALTZAHN**
**ANDDRE MAFRA
 & the REFLECTIONS**

PRESENTED BY
TD SUNFEST

FRI. OCT 13

THE PAIRS
KAZDOURA
SHAUIT
**KING
 CARDIAC**

PRESENTED BY
**CUCKOO'S NEST
 FOLK CLUB**

SAT. OCT 14

**PRESSGANG
 MUTINY**
**EMILY JEAN
 FLACK**
**ONION
 HONEY**
VINTA

Market Lane & The Good Foundation Inc. Theatre
Fanshawe College, 137 Dundas St, London

FOLK MUSIC ONTARIO BOARD MEMBERS



Cécile Doo-Kingué
PRESIDENT
TERM ENDS 2024

Award-winning artist Cécile Doo-Kingué is considered one of Canada's finest guitarists and singer-songwriters. First generation from Cameroon, the NYC-born Montrealer has released four albums to critical acclaim, received 8 Maple Blues Awards nominations and has extensively toured domestically and internationally, including most major folk, blues and jazz festivals in Canada, earning a reputation for blistering live sets, strong social commentary and guitar prowess. She has opened for, shared a stage and/or recorded with Montreal Jubilation Choir, Canned Heat, Angelique Kidjo, Ruthie Foster to name but a few.

In 2008, Cecile and Gern Vlcek co-created Chick Pickin' Mondays, offering a safe space and equitable gig for women and genderqueer artists. Cécile has since expanded the concept to curate and present private showcases at music conferences including FMO and Folk Alliance International.



Umair Jaffar
TREASURER
TERM ENDS 2024

Umair Jaffar is the Executive Director of Small World Music, one of Toronto's pioneering and most significant presenters of culturally-diverse music. Since arriving in Toronto in 2014, he has worked in curatorial and management roles at cultural institutions including the Aga Khan Museum and Harbourfront Centre. Prior to immigrating, he was the CEO & Artistic Director for IPAC (Institute for Preservation of Art and Culture), a Pakistan-based non-profit social enterprise that focused on developing sustainable solutions for preserving and promoting indigenous, folk and traditional performing arts. Umair also serves as a board member for several non-profit art organizations including CAPACOA, North York Arts and MusiConnect Asia. He has an MBA from University of Adelaide, Australia and a MSc Cultural Anthropology from University of Oxford, UK.



Cassidy Houston
VICE-PRESIDENT
TERM ENDS 2023

Since her first FMO Conference with the Developing Artists Program in 2018, Cassidy has known that the FMO community was a place she could call home. An emerging singer-songwriter from Northern Ontario with a University background in Health Promotion, Cassidy is empowered to be a voice for youth and help shape the future for a thriving folk music community.



Chris Greencorn
DIRECTOR
TERM ENDS 2024

Chris Greencorn is an arts administrator and academic based in Kingston, Ontario. He has been actively involved in the Canadian folk music industry practically all his life. Chris grew up at the centre of the Stan Rogers Folk Festival in Canso, Nova Scotia, moving through the ranks from volunteer to staff to executive – most recently as Artistic Director (2019 and 2020 event years). In that capacity, he booked the festival's first ever gender-balanced line-up. He was a board member for Home Routes/Chemins Chez Nous from 2018-21 and juries for industry organizations in several jurisdictions. Chris holds a master's degree in ethnomusicology from the University of Toronto and is now a PhD student in history at Queen's University, where he is studying the archival collections of Canadian women folklore collectors. He also runs a small artist & events services company called Seachange Music.



Tara Williamson
TERM ENDS 2024

Tara Williamson is a member of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation and was raised in Gaabishkigamaag (Swan Lake, Manitoba). She is a singer/songwriter with 2 EPs and 1 full length album under her belt that have garnered acclaim across Turtle Island, including an Indigenous Music Award nomination for Best Pop Album in 2017. Her newest album, Enough, was released in June of 2021. Tara also holds degrees in social work, law, and Indigenous governance, is a Senior Researcher at the Indigenous Law Research Unit at the University of Victoria and a Research Fellow with the Yellowhead Institute.

FOLK MUSIC ONTARIO BOARD MEMBERS



Jo Proulx
DIRECTOR
TERM ENDS 2024

Radio producer Jo Proulx (French/Abenaki) created the weekly French-speaking radio show ICI INDIE on 105.1 FM that exclusively plays music by Indigenous artists. The idea of this show came after realizing that Indigenous musicians are often automatically boxed into the traditional Indigenous flute-and-drum genre. Indigenous musicians have always been part of the mainstream music industry, including Folk music, but are often not acknowledged. ICI INDIE spins all genres (Folk, Americana, Country, Dance, Punk, Rock, Hip Hop) to break that stereotype. In April 2022, Jo founded Aki Media, a radio promotion and tracking company that promotes Indigenous artists beyond genres. Current artist roster includes several Folk artists: Digging Roots, Amanda Rheame, Julian Taylor, and Morgan Toney.



Candace Shaw
DIRECTOR
TERM ENDS 2024

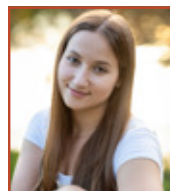
Candace Shaw is a Feminist, Cultural Producer, and Activist who has been a fixture on the Canadian music scene for almost thirty years. She was the long-time Artistic Director for the Peterborough Folk Festival, Chair of the Shelter Valley Folk Festival, and Booker for the Music City Summer Series in The Distillery District, Toronto, amongst other roles. She is a thoughtful, engaging, and provocative commentator and advocate for women, the arts, and arts workers' rights, and in 2019 was a candidate in the Federal election. Candace is the founder of Secret Frequency.ca, a not-for-profit advocacy and education organization working with under-represented people in the Canadian music industry.



Sherry Sinclair
DIRECTOR
TERM ENDS 2024

Sherry Sinclair has been working in the Canadian music and entertainment industry for over 25 years, with more than a decade focusing on digital content. For the past five years she has been operating and running her own company, Sinclair Creative Solutions, which offers business strategy, label management and marketing solutions, as well as, digital content delivery and rights management. Sherry manages award winning singer songwriter,

Canadian folk music gem, Catherine MacLellan. Previously working at companies like Bell Media, TELUS, Virgin Records, MCA/Universal Concerts (now Live Nation) and TicketMaster has allowed her to develop relationships throughout the recording, concert, radio, press, television, film, and telecom industries. Sherry's skills in partner management, marketing, promotions, event management, digital content and business strategy; gives her the rare advantage of understanding how the industry works with content partners, product development, legal, and government regulatory bodies. Sherry is passionate about helping independent and developing artists who often benefit from her previous work with global acts such as Taylor Swift, The Rolling Stones, David Bowie, Janet Jackson and top television brands like HBO Canada, CTV, TSN, Space and Much.



Rachel Petersen
INCOMING BOARD
MEMBERS

Rachel is a lifelong patron of the arts with a passion for visual arts, art & cultural history, and live performance. As a representative of the Summerfolk Music & Crafts festival, Rachel actively participates in Folk Music Ontario (FMO). During the past 3 years working at Summerfolk, Rachel has revitalized the festival's 600-member strong volunteer program to create a strong backbone for the organization, in the pursuit of preserving folk arts & culture in Canada. Through her time at Summerfolk, Rachel has grown increasingly familiar and connected with artists in the industry.

Rachel holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Wilfrid Laurier University, where she specialized in entrepreneurship, holistic business strategy, and market research. Currently transitioning to a supporting role in the executive office of a non-profit serving tech startup, Rachel is excited to continue her volunteer contributions to Summerfolk and FMO.

FOLK MUSIC ONTARIO BOARD MEMBERS



Shakura S'Aida
INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS

Shakura S'Aida is an award-winning performer, who has travelled the globe for more than two decades, connecting and inspiring audiences with her powerful vocals. An undeniable talent and an advocate for human rights, her artistic work reflects that which impacts and connects us all: Community, life, and love. "I believe we all have a responsibility to look after each other," says the Toronto-based artist. "I see, create, and use music as a way to bring people together."

A central figure in Toronto's music scene, the Brooklyn-born, Swiss-raised entertainer has garnered not only an international recording and touring career but has shone on the theatre stage as star and creator of the four-woman tribute to Nina Simone, The Nina Project, and in roles on-screen including as Lena, member of the beloved "Jazzagals" in the acclaimed series Schitt's Creek, and most recently as Cora Lewis, mother to Batwoman in DC Comics / Warner Brothers hit series of the same name.

With her first new album in ten years, Shakura is back with Hold on to Love; this time in the producer chair alongside co-producers Donna Grantis (Prince/3rd Eye Girl), Keb' Mo, and Roger Costa (Jeff Healey).



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friday oct 13
12 noon
Grand Ballroom**

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THE FMO TAYLOR MITCHELL BURSARY

The Taylor Mitchell Bursary was established in 2010 by Emily Mitchell, in memory of her daughter, Canadian songwriter Taylor Mitchell.

The bursary is to support one participant in the Performer Stream of the Developing Artist Program who might otherwise be prevented from taking part.

The bursary recipient receives up to \$500 towards costs associated with attending the FMO conference and participating in the Performer Stream of the Developing Artist Program.

This year Folk Music Ontario is proud to announce that the Taylor Mitchell Bursaries will be awarded to each of the artists participating in this year's Developing Artists Program.

Congratulations!





FOLK MUSIC ONTARIO ANNOUNCES ERIN BENJAMIN AND TRESA LEVASSEUR AS THE 2023 ESTELLE KLEIN AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Estelle Klein Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Erin Benjamin and the inaugural Estelle Klein Community Builder Award will be presented to Treasa Levasseur. Erin and Treasa will receive their awards and be honoured with a special video & presentation at the Ontario Folk Music Awards on Sunday, October 15, 2023.

Named after Estelle Klein, a long-time advocate of Canadian Folk music and one of the initial founders of the Folk festival scene, the Estelle Klein Award honours the work of an individual or group that has made significant contributions to Ontario's folk music community. For the first time in 2023, the Estelle Klein Award has been divided into two separate areas of recognition - The Community Builder Award, and The Lifetime Achievement Award. Recipients are nominated by the members of Folk Music Ontario, and selected by a committee made up of the board of directors and invited stakeholders.



ERIN BENJAMIN - LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

An award-winning community builder and driving force in Canadian Association leadership, Erin Benjamin has worked in the music industry for over 25 years. Originally a touring and recording artist and then as executive director of both Folk Music Ontario (2001) and the Canadian Arts Presenting Association (2008), today Erin continues her work as the first and only President & CEO of the Canadian Live Music Association (since its founding in 2014). An unflagging champion for the live music sector, particularly during COVID-19, she currently serves as a board member for the Ottawa Board of Trade, the United Way Eastern Ontario and the Ottawa Film Office. Over the years she has served a wide variety of organizations as a board member including The Unison Fund, Folk Alliance International, the Songwriters Association of Canada, the National Arts Centre's Creation Fund, RBC Ottawa Bluesfest and others.

"Erin is a tenacious and inspiring leader, whose story is woven into the fabric of folk community through her career as an artist, nearly a decade of building Folk Music Ontario into the organization it is today, advising a wide breadth of music industry organizations through her board service, and ultimately, being a champion for the live music industry; our festivals, venues and live music workers. Thank you, Erin, for your fearless and inspiring leadership, for keeping the spirit of folk with you through all that you do, and for the mentorship and guidance you gift to the next generation of leaders." - Rosalyn Dennett, Executive Director, Folk Music Ontario



TRESA LEVASSEUR - COMMUNITY BUILDER AWARD

Treasa Levasseur is a busy creative who wears many hats with enthusiasm. She is a JUNO-nominated songwriter, a seasoned sideperson and has self-released 4 albums over the course of her career as a front person. These days she is finding fresh inspiration in her work as a community music facilitator, program administrator and arts educator, as well as being an in demand MC and pop-up choir leader. Treasa helmed the Developing Artist Program at Folk Music Ontario for 6 years and recently completed a six year stint at Folk Alliance International. Elle est une fierte Franco-Ontarienne, and a proud Hamiltonian, and believes strongly in the power of personal expression as an agent of positive change.

"Treasa's name is synonymous with community. When she puts her creative heart into a project, around her grows a fellowship of artists, students, and dreamers, inspired by her effusive joy, thoughtful curation, and intentional programming. Thank you, Treasa, for manifesting safe and special communities for new generations of creatives to thrive in. You exude the spirit of Estelle in your honest and innovative leadership style, and we are very excited to celebrate your contributions to the folk community with the inaugural Estelle Klein Community Builder Award." - Rosalyn Dennett, Executive Director, Folk Music Ontario



ECLECTIC ROOTS @ FMO presented by The BEAT Network
 Friday October 13
 10:20-11:20pm
 Doubletree Hilton
 Suite 100

Jason Wilson and Ashara
 Scotland meets Jamaica in Canada!
 v 10:40pm

A Sarah Siddiqui
 Globally-infused
 alt/folk/soul
 10:20pm

< Jaffa Road
 Intercultural vibes
 from the crossroads
 11:00pm

sebastiancook.com
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2PM
MATT ZADDY

2:20PM
THE SNAKE CHARMER

2:40PM
JUNIOR SANTOS

CITY OF
 MISSISSAUGA

FOLK MUSIC ONTARIO SHOWCASE

SATURDAY
 OCTOBER 14
 2PM

BALLROOM | DOUBLETREE BY HILTON | 2PM

MISSISSAUGA

**Music
Ontario** AT



SUITE 200, 3RD FLOOR THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL

**EVENING SPOTLIGHTS ON
OCTOBER 12, 13, & 14, 2023!**

THU OCT 12

10:30 PM STEPH LA ROCHELLE
10:50 PM MEREDITH MOON
11:10 PM BARBRA LICA
11:30 PM HALEY MIDGETTE
11:50 PM BENJ ROWLAND
12:10 AM EMILY SCHULTZ
12:30 AM JULIE TITLE
12:50 AM ANDDRE MAFRA

FRI OCT 13

10:30 PM ADRIAN SUTHERLAND
10:50 PM BROOKE BLACKBURN
11:10 PM TWIN FLAMES
11:30 PM LEAH HOLTOM
11:50 PM LAND HEART SONG
12:10 AM LONESOME ACE
12:30 AM ALEXANDER SAINT
12:50 AM PRESSGANG MUTINY

SAT OCT 14

10:30 PM CALLIE MCULLOUGH
10:50 PM ALLISON LUPTON BAND
11:10 PM AERIALISTS
11:30 PM RORY TAILLON
11:50 PM WALEED KUSH AFROJAZZ
12:10 AM ONION HONEY
12:30 AM SARAH JANE SCOUTEN
12:50 AM JESSE CORRIGAN &
THE NEUSTADT SOUND



CIMA
COUNCIL OF
MUSIC INDUSTRY
ASSOCIATIONS



ONTARIO
CREATES | ONTARIO
CRÉATIF

FACTOR Canada

FMO 2023 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

2PM - 10PM

FMO Registration & Info Booth
Grand Ballroom East,
Mezzanine Level

2PM - 4PM

DAP Meet & Greet
Suite 400 (The Nook), 3rd Floor

3:30PM - 1:30AM

Instrument Lockup
Grand Ballroom East,
Mezzanine Level
(You must pick up your instrument
before the room closes, we will not
reopen the room after it closes,
no exceptions)

4PM - 5PM

**Opening Reception
Presented by London Tourism**
Grand Ballroom Centre & West,
Mezzanine Level

5PM - 7PM

**Dinner Break - Go experience
downtown London!**

7PM - 10:30PM

Evening Showcases
Suites 100, 200, 300 on the 3rd Floor,
and Windsor Club on the
Mezzanine Level

7:30PM - 10:30PM

**Community Concerts, Presented
by London Music Office,
Unesco City of Music**
Good Foundation Theatre,
Fanshawe College

10:30PM - 1AM

Late Night Showcases
Suite 100, 3rd Floor
Suite 200, 3rd Floor
Presented by Music Ontario
Suite 300, 3rd Floor
Presented by Small World Music
Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

9AM - 10PM

FMO Registration & Info Booth
Grand Ballroom East, Mezzanine
Level

9AM - 10AM

Yoga With Kim
Suite 500, 3rd Floor

10AM - 1:30AM

Instrument Lockup
Grand Ballroom East,
Mezzanine Level
(You must pick up your instrument
before the room closes, we will not
reopen the room after it closes,
no exceptions)

10AM - 11:30AM

FIFF - Opening screening
Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

10:30AM - 11:30AM

Sober Folks
Wellness Suite, Room 1115

11AM - 12PM

No Music On a Dead Planet
Suite 200, 3rd Floor

11AM - 12PM

Meet the ADS
Suite 300, 3rd Floor

11AM - 5PM

Little Folkers Daycare
Suite 500, 3rd Floor

11:30AM - 12:30PM

Music Educator Peer Session
Suite 400 (The Nook), 3rd Floor

12PM - 5PM

Exhibit Hall
Grand Ballroom Foyer,
Mezzanine Level

12PM - 1PM

Réseau Sparc Network Showcase
Grand Ballroom Foyer,
Mezzanine Level

12PM - 1PM

Where Does 'Folk' Fit in Film?
Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

1PM - 4PM

Daytime Showcases
Grand Ballroom, Centre & West,
Mezzanine Level

1PM - 5PM

The Campsite
Mezzanine Level

1PM - 2PM

Your Guide to Grant Writing
Suite 200, 3rd Floor

1PM - 2PM

Folk Agents Peer Session
Suite 300, 3rd Floor

1PM - 2PM

**Black Artists & Music Industry
Peer Session**
Suite 400 (The Nook), 3rd Floor

1PM - 2PM

**AUTHENTICITY Creativity and
Branding: Rejection as Inspiration**
Wellness Suite, Room 1115

1:30PM - 2:30PM

**Folk Tracks: Learn to use
Ableton Live**
Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

2:30PM - 3:30PM

**Navigating the Music Industry
as Neurodivergent**
Suite 200, 3rd Floor

2:30PM - 3:30PM

Band Leader Hacks PS
Suite 400 (The Nook), 3rd Floor

3PM - 4PM

Workshop: Film Scoring
Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

3PM - 4PM

**SCARCITY Toxic Comparisons:
Virtual Joy vs Personal Stress**
Wellness Suite, Room 1115

FMO 2023 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

4PM - 5PM

True North Records Reception and Showcase

Grand Ballroom Centre & West, Mezzanine Level

5PM - 7PM

Dinner Break

7PM - 10:30PM

Evening Showcases

Suites 100, 200, 300 on the 3rd Floor, and Windsor Club on the Mezzanine Level

7:30PM - 10:30PM

Community Concerts, Presented in Partnership by Sunfest and the London Music Office, Unesco City of Music

Good Foundation Theatre, Fanshawe College

10:30PM - 1AM

Late Night Showcases

Suite 100, 3rd Floor

10:20PM to 11:20PM

Presented by BEAT Network

Suite 100, 3rd Floor

11:20PM to 12:30AM

Presented by Haliburton Folk Society

Suite 200, 3rd Floor

Presented by Music Ontario

Suite 300, 3rd Floor

Presented by Small World Music

Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

9AM - 10PM

FMO Registration & Info Booth

Grand Ballroom East, Mezzanine Level

9AM - 10AM

Yoga With Kim

Suite 500, 3rd Floor

10AM - 1:30AM

Instrument Lockup

Grand Ballroom East, Mezzanine Level

(You must pick up your instrument before the room closes, we will not reopen the room after it closes, no exceptions)

10AM - 11:30AM

FIFF - Short Documentary & Film

Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

10:30AM - 11:30AM

Sober Folks

Wellness Suite, Room 1115

11AM - 12PM

How to Make a Living As An Artist Without Destroying the World (And Yourself)

Suite 200, 3rd Floor

11AM - 12PM

Concert Presenters Peer Session

Suite 300, 3rd Floor

11AM - 12PM

House Concerts Peer Session

Suite 400 (The Nook), 3rd Floor

11AM - 5PM

Little Folkers Daycare

Suite 500, 3rd Floor

11AM - 12PM

Peer Session - Music Managers Meetup

Presented by Music Managers Forum

Prime Minister's Suite, Room 2216

12PM - 5PM

Exhibit Hall

Grand Ballroom Foyer, Mezzanine Level

12PM - 2PM

Daytime Showcases Presented by NERFA

Grand Ballroom, Centre & West, Mezzanine Level

12PM - 1PM

FIFF - Live Performance Video

Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

12PM - 1PM

Unlocking Workforce Potential: Recruitment, Retention, Succession

Suite 300, 3rd Floor

12:30pm - 1:30PM

Table Ronde des artistes et de l'industrie de la musique francophone

Suite 400 (The Nook), 3rd Floor

1PM - 5PM

The Campsite

Mezzanine Level

1PM - 2PM

FIFF - Official 2022 Music Video Selections

Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

1PM - 2PM

Booking Folks, Booking Folk

Suite 200, 3rd Floor

1PM - 2PM

STRESS TOLERANCE Numbing vs Relaxing: What's the Difference

Wellness Suite, Room 1115

1PM - 4PM

Developing Artists Program Showcase

Suite 100, 3rd Floor

FMO 2023 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

2PM - 3PM

Daytime Showcases Presented by Mississauga Music
Grand Ballroom, Centre & West, Mezzanine Level

2PM - 3PM

Indigenous Artists & Music Industry Peer Session
Suite 400 (The Nook), 3rd Floor

2:30PM - 4PM

FIFF - Full Length Feature Film - Leilani's Fortune
Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

2:30PM - 3:30PM

Know Your Rights, Find Your Royalties
Suite 200, 3rd Floor

3PM - 4PM

Sylvia Tyson Listening Party, Presented by Stony Plain Records
Suite 300, 3rd Floor

3PM - 5PM

Daytime Showcases Presented by Toronto Blues Society
Grand Ballroom, Centre & West, Mezzanine Level

3PM - 4PM

IDENTITY Curiosity and Humility: Exploring Privilege
Wellness Suite, Room 1115

3:30PM - 4:30PM

Latin(x) Artists and Music Industry Peer Session
Suite 400 (The Nook), 3rd Floor

5PM - 7PM

Dinner Break

7PM - 10:30PM

Evening Showcases
Suites 100, 200, 300 on the 3rd Floor, and Windsor Club on the Mezzanine Level

7:30PM - 10:30PM

Community Concerts, Presented in Partnership by Cuckoo's Nest Folk Club and the London Music Office, Unesco City of Music
Good Foundation Theatre, Fanshawe College

10:30PM - 1AM

Late Night Showcases
Suite 100, 3rd Floor

10:15PM to 11:40PM

Presented by Haliburton Folk Society
Suite 100, 3rd Floor

11:40PM to 1AM

Presented by FMO
Suite 200, 3rd Floor

Presented by Music Ontario
Suite 300, 3rd Floor

Presented by Small World Music
Windsor Club, Mezzanine Level

SUNDAY. OCTOBER 15

9AM - 1PM

FMO Registration & Info Booth
Grand Ballroom East, Mezzanine Level

9AM - 4:30PM

Instrument Lockup
Grand Ballroom East, Mezzanine Level
(You must pick up your instrument before the room closes, we will not reopen the room after it closes, no exceptions)

10:30AM - 12PM

Sunday Sing-A-Long
Foyer, Mezzanine Level

11AM - 12PM

Artistic Director's Peer Session
Suite 200, 3rd Floor

11AM - 12PM

SOCAN Songwriting Masterclass
Suite 300, 3rd Floor

1PM - 2PM

Folk Music Ontario Awards Reception
Aeolian Hall

2PM - 4PM

Folk Music Ontario Awards Show
Aeolian Hall



We make very different beer.

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521 BURBROOK PL., LONDON, ON**



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!



The FMO staff and board would like to thank you all for your time, dedication and support during the FMO conference. The FMO Conference would not be possible without amazing volunteers like you! We love our volunteers and we hope to see you all again next year!

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Anda Rungis
Andre Mafra Brienza
Andres
Andrew Strauss
Angelica Maria S. Yepes
Ann Marie
Anne A.
Atasha Buyson
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Mayzie Mansell
Merrett Clements
Moir Vasquez
Molly McClure
Nathan Nykor
Nathanael Newton
Noah Phibbs
Oliver L.
Oscar Abley
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Peggy Liu
Pete Eastmure
Phillip vonesh
Phyllis Brady
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Renee Rochefort
Richard Knechtel
Rose Bontje
Rose-Erin Stokes
Sarah Hiltz
Shaun Wassegijig
Shawn Clarke
Sherry Aeichele
Sherry Milne
Sofia P.
Travis Bird
Vargio P.
Vimla Harry
Yash Mehta



2023 EDP DELEGATES



CHERYL PRASHKER

Cheryl Prashker studied classical percussion at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, where she is from. She toured Canada, U.S. Europe and Russia with The Yiddish Theatre of Montreal. She spent many years in NY City where she honed her skills as an accompanist. She has toured with many solo artists such as Garnet Rogers, Eric Andersen, Pat Wictor, Tracy Grammer and more. She is a founding member of the Celtic Roots band RUNA. Cheryl spent 15 years helping to run the Northeast Regional Folk Alliance (NERFA) while living in Philadelphia. She now lives in Ontario and is the Artistic Director and General Manager of the Goderich Celtic Roots Festival and College in Goderich, Ontario where she first attended as an artist in 2011.



MATT SMITH

Matt Smith is the Managing Director of Passim, the non-profit arts organization and legendary listening room in Cambridge, MA. The venue houses over 400 concerts per year and is dedicated to developing new artists in the room. He also teaches Venue Management for Berklee Online and hosts The Local Music Cafe for WMVY.



SUE PANNING

Canmore Folk Music Festival takes place over the Heritage Day long weekend, typically the first weekend in August. The festival is a family-oriented celebration of our diverse cultural heritage through the presentation of traditional and contemporary folk, blues, country, Canadiana/Americana, Celtic and Global Roots music.

Sue Panning has been involved with the Canmore Folk Festival since 2006, and has programmed the festival since 2011. We present top quality artists from across Canada and the world as well as supporting emerging artists (local, regional and, in some cases, national) in our rural community.



NEIL PEARSON

Neil is an artists' manager, and market development specialist; based in the UK, and working with clients from the UK, Canada, US, and Europe.

He manages John Smith (UK based artist / Thirty Tigers), and The Small Glories (Canada based / Compass records); and has worked with many artists including Rose Cousins, Tara Maclean, and more on developing the UK market.

In 2023 he has worked with the Canadian High Commission and MMF Canada on their UK managers' missions around Focus Wales and The Great Escape; and has an annual commitment to Music PEI on artist coaching and development.

He works with all the UK artists heading to Folk Alliance, and has programmed the UK private showcase room at the event since 2012.



2023 EDP DELEGATES



JONATHAN CAMPBELL

Before joining Small World Music (SWM), which presents and works with equity-deserving communities onstage and behind the scenes, Jonathan Campbell worked at and with many of Toronto's major arts institutions in communications, outreach, and programming. He ran the Toronto branch of secret-concert producers Sofar Sounds, was an APAP Leadership Fellow, and has served as a juror for funders, events, and awards including the JUNOs. From 2000-2010, he lived in Beijing, actively bridging East and West via the city's nascent music scene as a promoter, performer, writer – for international media, in his book, *Red Rock: The Long Strange March of Chinese Rock and Roll* (2011), and elsewhere – and more. At SWM, he contributes to the Incubator artist-development program, international showcase/conference Global Toronto, the Going Global outbound project, partnerships, live events, and more.



MICHELLE DEMERS SHAEVITZ

Michelle has been with Mission Folk since 1991, stepping into the role of AD in 2017. A huge proponent of community driven arts, she serves on the boards of Northwest Folklife and Folk Alliance West. When not in Mission, Michelle lives in Seattle with her husband, kiddo, and dog named Jack.



DOUG COX

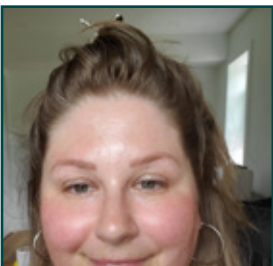
Doug Cox is an award-winning, sushi-eating, musical collaborator with a life comprised of over 40 years of producing, touring, teaching and recording. That's right, he's an old white guy, but it's not his fault!

With roots that go back to working for the founders of the Edmonton Folk Festival, Doug has been AD at Vancouver Island MusicFest for 25 years. He currently has a busy recording studio, a weekly radio show, tours with Cox and McRae and runs a 180 seat venue as well.



LOUIS ROBITAILLE

Louis Robitaille is the President of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society and a Lifetime Friend of the Festival; he is also the Society's longest-serving Program Committee member, having been involved in over half of the Festivals in Folk Harbour's history. He is passionate about bringing a wide and gender-balanced offering of music to Folk Harbour stages. Professionally, he is an educator who works with the Nova Scotia Teachers Union.



ANDREA COLLETTE VINCENT

Hailing from Newfoundland & Labrador, Andrea grew up in an active DIY music community where youth "made stuff happen." In 2011, Andrea co-founded the St. John's music festival *Lawnya Vawnya*; and later served as Director of the Dawson City Music Festival for five years before joining *Sappyfest* (Sackville, NB) in 2022 as Creative Director. *Sappyfest* is a music and art festival focused on emerging, unheralded, and celebrated artists working in all styles of music, sound, poetry, dance, film, and the visual and performing arts. Andrea also sits on the Board of the Canadian Association For The Performing Arts (CAPACOA) and lives for being in or on the water!



2023 EDP DELEGATES



JEFF BRAY

Since co-founding Cultivate 2015, Jeff has grown the organization as the ED and AD into a non-profit arts organization presenting Cultivate Festival, the flagship camping festival in late September, the Road to Cultivate free weekly concert series in July and August and Hibernate, a winter festival on Family Day weekend.

Cultivate, based in Port Hope, On., engages local citizens in the discovery and celebration of Canadian arts and culture with a big focus on strengthening community. Family friendly programming is at the heart of all Cultivate programming.



SEAN MULLIGAN

Sean is an award-winning music supervisor, nine-time Guild of Music Supervisors Award nominee, and SVP of Creative & Music Supervision for The Wilders—an award-winning family of music supervisors, composers, producers and songwriters overseeing the sound of story in diverse television, film, advertising, podcasts and audiobook production. Over his 25+ year career as a music executive, Sean has supervised music on over 45 feature films and television series—under Rock Steady Music, and later eOne/Hasbro and MNRK Music Group—for such notable producers and directors as: Aaron Sorkin, Darren Aronofsky, Adam McKay, Kristen Wiig, Reed Morano, Sam Taylor-Johnson, Olivia Wilde, Lucy Hale, Greg Kinnear, Sean ‘Puff Daddy’ Combs, Mark Gordon, Brad Weston, and David Ayer. He is most proud of the work his team does in support of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.



DEVIN LATIMER

Devin Latimer is artistic director of Trout Forest Music Festival in northwestern Ontario, a faculty member in green chemistry and environmental communications at the University of Winnipeg, and a struggling bass player with Winnipeg music collectives Leaf Rapids and the Juno winning Nathan Music Co.



GEOFF CASS

Owner and Buyer for Red Bird, a new intimate 80-seat venue in Ottawa.



SEBASTIAN BUCCIONI

Sebastian Buccioni is the Artistic and Executive Director of Estonian Music Week (EMW), Toronto and a Project Manager at Music Estonia (ME), Tallinn. Buccioni takes a collaborative approach to programming, working with community groups to deliver meaningful content. Expanding EMW beyond programming, Buccioni is the driving force behind EMW’s involvement in music import/export between Canada and Estonia. As a Project Manager, Buccioni is largely responsible for ME’s international conference and tradeshow portfolio (including WOMEX, Reeperbahn, and Jazzahead! among others). His work involves organizing delegations and events, conducting market research and advising artists. Buccioni served on the board of Toronto Operetta Theatre for 4 years including 1.5 years as President. While active as a musician Buccioni was known for his work as a Hammond Organist and Keyboardist with the Julian Taylor Band, the Out of Towners and Chameleon Project.



2023 EDP DELEGATES



PETER NORTH

Peter North has enjoyed a multi-faceted career that has been centred around promoting roots music of all forms.

He spent 25 years writing music columns for Edmonton's daily newspapers. In television he booked Ian Tyson's nationally syndicated Sun Country series for six years in the eighties and another seven years co-producing the CBC music series Country Beat. A 17-year run started the new millennium at the CKUA Radio, nine years as Music Director and host of two shows, Dead Ends and Detours and Points North.

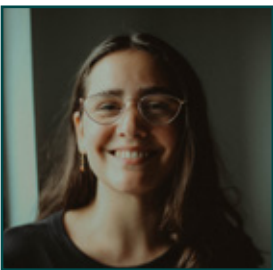
As a promoter North has produced hundreds of concerts. More recently co-producing the annual Winter Roots Festival with FolkwaysAlive! at the U of A and for eight years he was AD of the Salmon Arm Roots and Blues Festival.

He has been honored by the WCMA, Maple Blues, Canadian Music Week, Arts Touring Alliance of Alberta, Calgary Blues Society and the Edmonton Blues Hall of Fame.



JOSH WRIGHT

Josh Wright is a co-organizer and the artistic director of Whoop & Hollar Folk Festival in Portage la Prairie, located on Treaty 1 Territory and the homeland of the Métis Nation in southcentral Manitoba. He co-created the non-profit event and organization in 2015, with a vision to bend and stretch musical experience on the rural Manitoban prairie. Josh describes Whoop & Hollar as a little festival with a big impact, and one that elevates emerging local performers while offering an accessible, affordable, and high-calibre music experience for the community and province. As an artistic director, Josh carefully curates musical lineups that include a variety of sounds and flavours, and reflect the diversity of his community in terms of gender parity, Indigenous cultural representation, and language minorities. In his time outside of festival planning, Josh enjoys gardening, dancing, listening to music, and being in nature.



ABIGAIL CASSIO

Abigail Cassio started with River & Sky Music/ Camping Festival first as an attendee, then a volunteer, an intern, to now their Executive Director, a position she's held for the last four years, and well as the main programmer for the annual fest's 4+ days of music. With her Bachelors of Creative Industries from Toronto Metropolitan University, Abby has focused on building the capacity and foundation of the organization through her skills in grant writing and financial management, while seeking new opportunities through community partnership. Her ultimate goals are to continue to book exciting and emerging artists to play in Northern ON, nurture the R&S community, support the environmental sustainability goals of organization, and to ensure the longevity of the beloved festival.



DAVE CARMICHAEL

Dave has been the Program Director of the Deep Roots Music Festival (Wolfville, Nova Scotia) since 2011. The festival was established in 2004 and has become one of the preeminent Festivals of the Annapolis Valley.

Deep Roots is looking forward to a promising return in 2023; a full-scale live event with multiple stages, workshops, family programming including a parade, sing-alongs, face painting, and more – fun for all from September 21-24, 2023.



2023 EDP DELEGATES



TANIA JOY

Folk-Roots artist Tania Joy is the Co-founder and Executive Director of Springtide Music Festival, a non-profit organization led by a volunteer team of business leaders and local musicians which draws over 70 acts to various venues from breweries and bistros to bookstores and clothing shops in historic downtown Uxbridge, northeast of Toronto. Springtide recognizes that live music venues in small cities and rural towns serve as a vivacious cultural hub for their communities and is committed to creating a platform to support and celebrate local talent, while fostering performance opportunities that introduce Canadian artists outside of the region to new audiences.



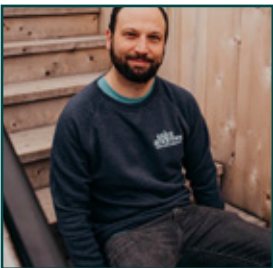
SARAH CARD

Sarah Card is the founder and producer of the Bear Creek Folk Festival, in Grande Prairie AB. The event runs mid August and features over 30 world class artists. Headliners have included kd lang, Sarah McLachlan, Blue Rodeo, Steve Earle, Feist, and more. Founded in 2016, Sarah has led the charge, including coordinating over 500 volunteers annually, to create the largest tourism draw in the history of the Grande Prairie region. The sellout crowd in 2023 will see 7500+ people on site per day.



STEPHEN ANTLE

Stephen Antle has had a career in broadcasting starting in long-form documentary radio at CBC Cape Breton back in the late 1980's. From there he pursued university in Halifax while working as an actor and musician through the early 1990's and returned to broadcasting in 1997 when he was hired to launch a new TV station in Edmonton, AB. From 1997-2004 he hosted and produced entertainment television. Stephen returned to Nova Scotia in 2005 and has worked in the east coast entertainment business in one form or another. Promoter, producer, agent and manager working with some of the biggest acts in Atlantic Canada Stephen is currently the Festival Manager of the Halifax Urban Folk Festival (HUFF), and co-promoter and Artistic Director of Rock the Fiddle in Sydney, Cape Breton.

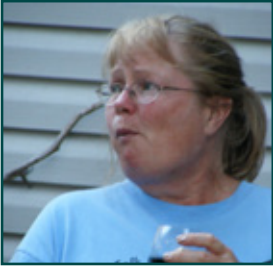


LUKE MACDONALD

Luke Macdonald is a festival organizer and promoter based in the small seaside town Of St. Andrews, New Brunswick For the last 10 years Luke has been the creative/artistic director for the Paddlefest Music & Outdoor Recreation Festival which is annually held in St. Andrews in May. Paddlefest also hosts a number of special events outside of the festival, including a fall and winter concert series. In addition Luke is also involved with booking music at local venues in St. Andrews.



2023 EDP DELEGATES



ELLY TOSE

Elly is a founding member of the Sleeping Giant Folk Music Society in Thunder Bay, ON and has been its Administrative Coordinator for over 20 years. She is primarily involved in selecting and contracting performers and maintains the organization's corporate and financial records.

Elly has also volunteered as the Hospitality Coordinator, the Sponsorship Coordinator and part of the cleanup crew for the Live from the Rock Folk Festival.

During COVID when LFTR was not able to present its annual festival, a group in Thunder Bay put together 4 events curated by Elly, supported by SGFMS and Canadian Heritage, to raise funds for LFTR.

Post COVID, when Jean-Paul De Roover was looking to step down from his volunteer position as Artistic Director with LFTR, he asked Elly about taking on the A.D. position. After 6 months of shadowing Jean-Paul, Elly became the Acting Artistic Director for LFTR in April 2023.



RYAN KEMP



DARIN J. ADDISON

Darin J. Addison is the Artistic Director for the Home County Music & Art Festival in London ON Canada. His diverse background includes over 25 years in the music business in various areas including, artist management, booking, publicity & promotion, radio track & promotion, talent buying, etc.



JOHN LAW

Co-founder and Artistic Director of The Kingsville Music Society



MICHELE LAW

Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Kingsville Music Society. Since 2013, presenting all ages music experiences in Kingsville, Ontario through an annual music festival and year-round concert series.



2023 EDP DELEGATES



TERESA HOROSKO

Teresa Horosko is the Operations Manager of Folk On The Rocks Music Festival in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. Working closely with the Executive and Artistic Director, she leads a team which aims to foster a sense of community and pride in our territory by delivering a one-of-a-kind cultural and artistic event that reflects the diversity and spirit of the north. With her work at Folk On The Rocks, Teresa organizes a premiere festival for Canadian and International performers, providing a launching pad for up-and-coming artists, while putting strong emphasis on delivering a financially sustainable and socially conscious experience deeply rooted in northern hospitality. Outside this work, she also is a writer and editor.



JENNA KLEIN-WALLER

Jenna a senior arts leader with over 15 years of progressive experience developing and managing multi-disciplinary arts programs, festivals, and organizations. She is the newly appointed Executive Director of The Canmore Folk Music Festival.



JUSTIN NORDELL

Justin Nordell, a perpetual arts & culture junkie, began at the Philadelphia Folksong Society, presenters of the Philadelphia Folk Festival, over a decade ago before leaving to take a job with a recording studio in Texas. Justin returned to Philadelphia, as culturally promiscuous as ever, working with the Pennsylvania Ballet, Philadelphia Film Festival, FringeArts, and even with a pit stop as Director of Business Development for a law firm, before returning to the Philadelphia Folksong Society as Executive Director in 2015. Ironically now working for the recording studio in TX again, Justin spends his free time ensuring artists have the opportunity to shine and develop as president of NERFA, the Northeast Regional Folk Alliance.



JASON WILLIAMS

I'm Jason Williams, founding member for the Wildmountain music festival and I hold the Artistic Director title. We just celebrated our 15th annual Wildmountain music festival. We are located on the edge of the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains. about 10 km northwest of Hinton Alberta and 72 km northeast of the Jasper townsite. We are always the third weekend in July.



DANIELLE DEVLIN

Canis Major Music is focused on internationally touring artists that perform with heart, enthusiasm, and outstanding talent, touring them throughout the United States and Canada.

Danielle is passionate about all forms of traditional dance and music, especially Celtic and French rooted forms, with a special affinity for vocal traditions, having trained in classical voice. She is a board member with Halcyon Arts, former Treasurer and board member with Young Tradition Vermont; and serves as Artistic Director for New World Festival. Having built a strong foundation working in the arts as a booking agent in global roots, jazz and folk music representation, coupled with her experience in development and administration for theaters, she is uniquely poised to represent artists with integrity and an open, collaborative approach. She is the biggest fan of every one on the roster!

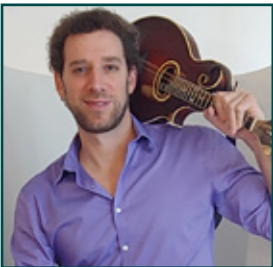


2023 EDP DELEGATES



JORGE REQUENA RAMOS

Jorge Requena Ramos is a multi-disciplinary artist who grew up in Mexico City and now calls Winnipeg, Manitoba his home. He became the Artistic Director of the West End Cultural Centre (WECC) after spending a decade touring with his band The Mariachi Ghost. This experience helped him develop extensive relationships with musicians and the music industry at large. In his tenure at the WECC he has overseen the development and growth of WNTRPTN (Winterruption), a festival that celebrates life in a winter city, even at -40 below. He has also helped the WECC transition with an Anti-Oppressive strategic plan that will see their programming and practices reflect the truly diverse fabric of Canada.



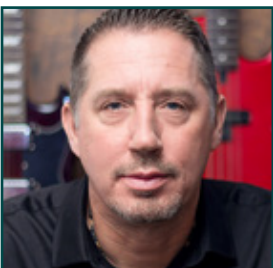
ERIC STEIN

Mandolinist, bassist, bandleader, arts curator and producer, Eric Stein has been a prominent figure in Canada's folk, world and Jewish-roots music scenes for 25 years. He is founder and leader of the innovative klezmer-balkan fusion group Beyond the Pale, with whom he has performed across North America, Europe, Brazil and Australia and released four award-winning albums. Eric also leads the Brazilian choro music ensemble Tio Chorinho, is a member of the international supergroup the Ger Mandolin Orchestra, and has performed with a number of other leading world, folk and classical artists, including Theodore Bikel, Arlo Guthrie, So-called, Flory Jagoda, Mike Marshall, Avi Avital, and various Canadian chamber groups and symphonies. Eric is also an experienced teacher, workshop leader and lecturer. Since 2006, Eric has served as Artistic Director of Toronto's biennial Ashkenaz Festival, one of the world's largest celebrations of Yiddish and global Jewish music and culture.



KATE WEEKES

Kate Weekes is a songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, as well as Artistic Director for Blue Skies Music Festival.



TROY GREENCORN

Troy Greencorn is the founding Artistic Director of the Stan Rogers Folk Festival, now into its 26th year. "Stanfest", as it has come to be known, is an international songwriter's festival that presents a roster of over 40 accomplished artists/acts from a wide range of genres. The event, hosted in Canso, Nova Scotia is a 4 day, multi-stage festival. Troy is also the Creative Director of the deCoste Performing Arts Centre in Pictou, Nova Scotia, a 400 seat facility that presents 100+ events each year. The deCoste's presents a rich mix of shows, predominantly music, but also including dance, theatre, comedy, film and variety.



KERRY CLARKE

Community radio was Kerry's entry into the independent music world 36 years ago. She's artistic and marketing director of the 44 year 'post-folk' Calgary Folk Music Festival, the winter Block Heater festival and an off-season concert series. She spent some time on the skins in an all-female lo-fi band decades ago, is on several non-profit arts boards, has served on many arts juries, is a proud part of WRAD (western roots artistic directors) and NApresenters, co-founded Rwanda's KigaliUp festival, and produces/hosts weekly CKUA and CJSW radio programs when she's not traveling to conferences and festivals to see music from a vast range of genres.



2023 EDP DELEGATES



MARIA THEESSINK

Maria Theessink is the artistic director at Tønder Festival in Denmark. The festival can celebrate it's 50th edition in 2024. We present traditional music, americana, country, blues, cajun, zydeco, singer songwriters. Almost everything can go as long as it's GOOD. The festival is nonprofit. We have app. 3000 volunteers. The festival is last weekend of August.



VAL DENN

Valerie is very active in the World Music/Roots/Americana/ community as an agent and a manager. She is passionate about her artists and especially adept at helping her clients with export development and building global careers. Val served for four years on the Board of Directors for Folk Alliance International where she also served a term as President. Val teaches and partners with other industry events to lead workshops/ panels for the enrichment of the creative/artistic process. She has been a mentor at SXSW, Mundial Montreal, WOMEX, Folk Music Canada, ECMA's and participated on numerous panels at industry events. She currently is on the board as interim President of Folk Music Canada and a board member of the Live Music Society- which gives grants to small venues in the US. Val is the Canadian Ambassador for The House of Songs based in Austin, Texas. This organization matches songwriters globally for co-writing experiences and has residencies in Austin, Bentonville, AR, New York City, and opening new "houses" in Nordic countries.

In her spare time, she is an organic farmer and potter with her husband of 41 years in Nova Scotia Canada.



LISA SCHWARTZ

Lisa Schwartz is a well-known consultant specializing in program design, curation and marketing for festivals and conferences in the US and UK. She is also a highly sought-after mentor and coach who uses strategic marketing and branding skills to consult with artists and industry professionals around the globe to position them for career growth. Currently, Lisa is working with the famed Cambridge Folk Festival in England providing programming, curation and marketing services.



DAVID BARNARD

David is a Senior Program Advisor for the Canada Arts Presentation Fund at the Department of Canadian Heritage. I've had a number of other titles given to me: agent of change, transformative designer, cultural connector, and some I'll leave to your imagination. Radio host and producer, facilitator, event planner and producer, community activist, is some of the other work I've done over the years.



2023 EDP DELEGATES



MARILENA GAUDIO

Marilena started her career at the University of Ottawa with an arts degree majoring in arts administration which lead her to an internship at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City. She's earned her stripes on the front lines of the Ottawa live music scene as the manager of beloved local band The PepTides, live music programmer at local club Mercury Lounge, and currently at the National Arts Centre working with Popular Music and Variety as the Associate Producer of Popular Music & Variety. In her current role, she oversees most of the local and emerging artists programming as well as community and national rentals.



ARTHUR MCGREGOR

Former director Ottawa Folklore Centre, founding director Canadian Folk Music Awards, recipient CFMA unsung hero award, FMO Estelle Klein award recipient, Canadian vice-president CFM Local 1000, performing/recording musician.



MAX MERRIFIELD

By night, Max Merrifield is the Artistic Director of Sudbury, Ontario's Northern Lights Festival Boréal. It is Canada's longest, consecutively running music festival, presenting an eclectic mix of folk, world, indie and beyond. Under the NLFB banner, Merrifield also founded the annual Bloom festival, typically taking place in March, celebrating music & cultural diversity. He is also a past board member of Folk Music Ontario.

By day, Merrifield is a Northern Development Advisor with the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development. He works with non-profits, businesses, First Nations and local governments in the development, financing, and monitoring of economic and community development related projects - including festivals.

In the very late hours of the night, Max is also a hip-hop artist, producer, presenter and DJ under the moniker 'Max Moon'.



SAMIR BAIJAL

Samir (Sam) has been the artistic director at the Hillside Festival since 1998. He also presents concerts for the University of Guelph on and off campus. Sam's favourite past time is going to see concerts.



ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES

CMRRA SONG OF THE YEAR



BARBRA LICA
**THE GHOST
OF ME**



**EMILY
SCHULTZ**
WHAT DO I KNOW



JULIAN TAYLOR
SEEDS



MADISON VIOLET
**SWEET
DESPERADO**

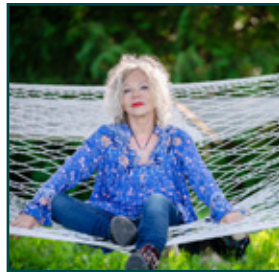


**MICHAEL DARCY
& THE ATLANTIC
TRAMPS**
**THE BALLAD OF
UNCLE FRANK**

ALBUM OF THE YEAR



DIGGING ROOTS
ZHAWENIM



**LENKA
LICHTENBERG**
**THIEVES OF
DREAMS:
SONGS OF
THERESIENSTADT'S
SECRET POETESS**



MAMA'S BROKE
NARROW LINE

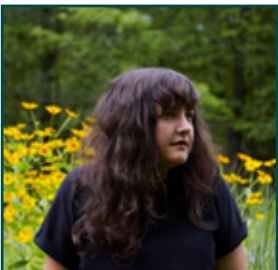


MIA KELLY
**GARDEN
THROUGH
THE WAR**



SHAKURA S'AIDA
**HOLD ON TO
LOVE**

RECORDING ARTIST OF THE YEAR



ABIGAIL LAPELL



AL QAHWA



**AMANDA
RHEUME**



**ANGELIQUE
FRANCIS**



AYSANABEE



ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES

PERFORMING ARTIST OF THE YEAR



AYSANABEE



DIGGING ROOTS



JULIAN TAYLOR



**THE
FITZGERALDS**



YAO

NOMINEE BIOS



ABIGAIL LAPELL

Toronto songwriter Abigail Lapell returns with *Stolen Time*, her elemental and powerfully evocative third album. Produced by Howard Bilterman (Leonard Cohen, U.S. Girls) at Montreal's Hotel2Tango, *Stolen Time* feels unhurried, psychedelic and otherworldly in the vein of Gillian Welch or Karen Dalton. An eclectic cast of musicians including Fats Kaplin (John Prine, Beck), Christine Bougie (Bahamas, Gretchen Peters), Dani Nash (Andy Shauf, Sarah Harmer), and Dan Fortin (John Southworth, Serena Ryder) - underscores the power of Lapell's vocals on live-off-the-floor,

70s folk rock arrangements featuring bass, drums, horns, strings and steel. But many of the album's standout tracks are solo guitar or piano songs, backed by little more than ghostly accordion or harmonica. The result is Lapell's most ambitious and confident album to date, which has earned praise from *Rolling Stone*, *Brooklyn Vegan*, *Flood*, *Exclaim!* and *No Depression*. Over the past five years and two spellbinding releases, Lapell has garnered three Canadian Folk Music Awards (English Songwriter of the Year in 2020 and 2022, and Contemporary Album of the Year in 2017) and a staggering 30 million+ Spotify streams while touring widely across Canada, the U.S. and Europe. *Stolen Time* was released April 2022 on Outside Music.



AL QAHWA

Al Qahwa is Maryem Tollar on vocals, riqq (Arabic tambourine) and qanun (Arabic table harp); Ernie Tollar on wind instruments; Demetri Petsalakis on oud; Naghmeh Fahrahmand on percussion; and Waleed Abdulhamid on bass and vocals. The group name Al Qahwa is Arabic for "the coffee house". It was inspired by the coffee house culture in the Middle East where people would go to hear the latest news, music, poetry and stories. The repertoire began with traditional songs from Syria, Egypt and Iraq. In 2018, the group started adding original repertoire by members of the band. Al Qahwa's new recording "Weyn Allah" was released on June 1, 2023 on all digital platforms. The CD was made possible by The Toronto Arts Council and The Ontario Arts Council.

ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES



AMANDA RHEAUME

Winner of the 2023 Capital Music Awards for Album of the Year (*The Spaces in Between*) and Winner of the 2023 Canadian Folk Music Awards for Indigenous Songwriter of the Year, Amanda Rheume's (she/her) rootsy, guitar-driven ballads introduce crucial dimensions to the world of Heartland Rock. In a genre characterized by anthems of underdogs, assumptions, and unfair advantages, Rheume's sound and story crucially and radically expand geographic and cultural boundaries to make space for new perspectives on resistance and resilience. A Citizen of the Métis Nation and an active and proud member of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, Rheume's music is indeed from the heart, and the land.

First a songwriter, Rheume comes from a long line of tireless, transformational organizers and activists. She carries this lineage forward in her ever-growing role as a crucial builder of Indigenous music infrastructure and community. From the International Indigenous Music Summit, to co-founded Ishkodé Records, and the National Indigenous Music Office, the goal of raising Indigenous sovereignty in the music industry drives all of Rheume's work.

Rheume has released 5 full-length albums over a period of 15 years, at the same time fostering a self-managed career travelling for countless tours and milestones. 2013's *Keep a Fire* was nominated for a JUNO Award and won a Canadian Folk Music Award for Indigenous Songwriter of the Year. With her most recent album, "*The Spaces In Between*," (2022) featuring songs that embody a driving, surging Copperhead Road-esque journey through a wilfully, harmfully misrepresented chapter in a violent colonial timeline, Rheume makes a powerful statement about history and identity.



ANGELIQUE FRANCIS

JUNO Award winning artist Angelique Francis is a versatile and exceptionally gifted musician. This multi-talented, multi-instrumentalist, multi-genre singer-songwriter/composer has wowed audiences across the globe with her electrifying performances, instrumental abilities and powerful textured vocals. She is known for her eclectic mix of various musical genres including Folk, Blues, Soul, Roots, Gospel and Americana. Angelique has shared the stage/opened for a large roster of well-known musicians such as Gary Clark Jr, Joe Bonamassa, Eric Gales, Keb'Mo', Jimmy Vivino, Beth Hart, Tom Cochran, Burton Cummings, and many more. Her diversity, passion and love of music can be heard in all of her original compositions.

She has recently been awarded with a 2023 JUNO Award for her Album '*Long River*', two 2023 Canadian Blues Music Awards (Maple Blues Awards), and her band, The Angelique Francis Band has won the 2023 Capital Music Award for Group of The Year. She was also nominated for a 2023 Canadian Folk Music Award, and a 2022 Ontario Folk Music Award.

This highly sought-after musician hosted the 2022 Canadian Blues Music Awards, and was a feature act at the Keeping the Blues Alive at Sea festival (Miami to Jamaica), Grolsch Blues Festival (Germany), Sighisoara Blues Festival (Romania), Massey Hall, Montreal Jazz Festival, Mariposa Folk Fest, Calgary Folk fest, Canmore Folk Fest, Ottawa Blues Festival, Ottawa Jazz Festival, London Music Festival, Mont-Tremblant Blues Festival, Trios-Rivieres Blues festival, and the list goes on.

ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES



AYSANABEE

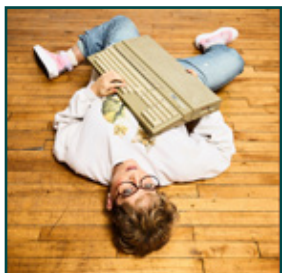
Aysanabee (he/him) is a multi-instrumentalist, producer and singer songwriter currently based in Toronto. He is Oji-Cree, Sucker Clan of the Sandy Lake First Nation, a remote fly-in community in the far reaches of Northwestern Ontario.

Aysanabee (Evan Pang) began creating music under his mother's maiden name during the pandemic when the stillness allowed him to slow down and create music that, he says, more accurately represents himself as an artist. With a swirling mix of indie, soul, and electronic sounds, mournful saxophone, and pulse-quickening fingerpicking, Aysanabee's music is both hypnotic and melodious, and has been compared to Bon Iver, Matt Corby, Don Ross, Kim Churchill, Kings of Leon, and Sam Smith among others.

His debut album, *Watin* (Nov 2022), named after his grandfather, includes 10 tracks and nine interludes featuring the voice of his grandfather that combines music and journalism with artistry and expression. "*Watin*' actually started out as a series of conversations between myself and my grandfather", says Aysanabee. "We spent the first year of the pandemic talking about things we've never spoken about, his life on the trapline on Sandy Lake First Nation, falling in love, his life in residential school and then leaving everything behind. We never spoke of it until now. Even though we were over 1,000 kilometres apart, it was probably the closest we've ever been."

In what became a whirlwind year for Aysanabee, he released his first single, *We Were Here* in July of 2022. This single charted on the Indigenous Music Countdown and was featured on an episode of *Station 19*. This single was also performed live at the 2023 JUNO Awards, further solidifying Aysanabee as a major player in Canadian music. The year continued with the release of *Nomads* (August 2022) which charted on *Billboard Canada*, became #1 on *CBC Music* and #1 on the *Alternative Radio Chart* (March 2023), and finally, *Ego Death* (October 2022), which led up to the release of his full album, *Watin*, in November.

With the success of his debut releases, 2023 continues that wave of accomplishments with multiple nominations, awards, and a full summer tour schedule, further proof that Aysanabee has made a name for himself as a unique and talented artist, one that will continue to influence Canadian music for years to come.



BARBRA LICA

Barbra Lica is a JUNO-nominated singer-songwriter based in Toronto. A seasoned act on the Canadian and American club and festival circuits, Barbra Lica has performed everywhere from New York City's legendary Birdland to Toronto's prestigious Koerner Hall. She has also headlined at festivals around the world including Festival International de Jazz de Montréal, Tokyo International Jazz Festival, Focsani Blues Festival (Romania) and Xerox Rochester International Jazz Festival, opening for the likes of Christian McBride, Pat Metheny and Terence Blanchard. Her 2017 album, *You're Fine* (Justin Time Records), marked the introduction of Folk and Americana to her repertoire and has amassed over 5.6 million streams to date on Spotify. In addition to writing for herself, Barbra has written cuts for such artists as jazz crooner Matt Dusk (Entertainment One/Universal), rising J-Pop singer Harumi (Sony Music Japan), and Taiwanese pop recording artist, Morrison Ma (Universal Music Group/X Entertainment). She is currently promoting her first self-produced EP '*Imposter Syndrome*' - released October 2022 with generous support from FACTOR, as well as her new chamber orchestra project featuring all-original songs arranged by Barbra for 14 instruments plus voice.

ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES



DIGGING ROOTS

Digging Roots breathe life into songs from their land, Turtle Island, they raise their voices in solidarity with a global chorus of Indigenous artists, activists and change-makers.

For over a decade, two-time JUNO Award winners Digging Roots have traveled the world with a joyful message of resistance, celebrating Anishinaabe and Onkwehón: we traditions of round dance and interconnectedness. As Roots Music Canada says, the band is "... badass, empowering and hopeful all at the same time."

The beating hearts of Digging Roots, founding duo ShoShona Kish and Raven Kanatakta, have built a home for a talented community of players and collaborators including their son, drummer Skye Polson.

For long time fans or new audiences, their constantly evolving live show opens a space, wherever they may be in the world, for healing, compassion, unconditional love and Baamaadziwin (the good life). Constantly interweaving between drum culture and guitar dialects, Raven and ShoShona were raised in cultural families that have continued to resist oppression and colonialism.

More than a band, Digging Roots have taken their place at the frontline of the fight for equity and representation in the arts, with involvement in industry advocacy and organization to empower arts communities worldwide. ShoShona is the founder of the International Indigenous Music Summit and the music label Ishk'dé Records.



EMILY SCHULTZ

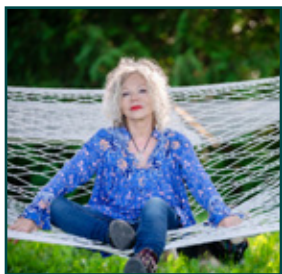
Recognized by David Foster as a world-class, up-and-coming talent, Emily Schultz has injected herself into the Canadian music scene with force and grace. Combining powerful vocals, honest songwriting and guitar, she has developed a passionate experience that speaks honestly of human existence, and releases it with a performance energy that is both raw and intimate. Pulling inspiration from Patty Griffin to Ben Howard, Noah Kahan to India Arie, Emily has concocted her own brand of music that will both open your soul and get you singing your heart out. Featured on eTalk, Much Music and Breakfast TV, and a seasoned festival performer (Hops & Harvest Festival, Blue Skies Festival, Edmonton Folk Music Festival) with over 200 performances under her belt in the last year, Emily's songwriting credits have 2 million+ streams across DSPs. Her long-awaited debut EP 'Family Name' dropped earlier this year, garnering global attention and cementing herself as a timeless artist to watch.



JULIAN TAYLOR

With a soulful voice and captivating stage presence, Julian Taylor is a unique and important voice on the Canadian roots-and-folk scene. His unique blend of blues, roots, country, and folk music has earned him a growing fanbase and critical acclaim.

ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES



LENKA LICHTENBERG

Lenka Lichtenberg was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia. She spent her childhood years as a 'child star' in the musical theatre Semafor. She studied classical music at the Prague Music Conservatory, specializing in voice. Escaping the Communist regime, Lenka arrived in Vancouver, B.C. as a landed immigrant. She received her B.Ed. from the University of British Columbia and a Master's Degree in Ethnomusicology from York University. She taught music at the Toronto Metropolitan University (1997-2005) while raising three children.

In 2002, Lenka co-founded the Yiddish swing all-female group Sisters of Sheynville, with whom she performed across Canada, the U.S. and Europe. In 2010, she founded her group Fray; their two albums of original music fuse her own Eastern European roots with the band members' diverse cultural sensibilities.

Lenka tours internationally as a soloist, and with the various ensembles; she has released seven solo albums and several collaborations. Two of Lenka's albums, MASARYK (2017) and Yiddish Journey (2018), were released on the U.K. label ARC Music. She has received multiple awards and nominations, including two Canadian Folk Music Awards, Juno Award, an Independent Music Award and Global Music Award.

Since 2020, Lenka lives on a farm near Bewdley in Eastern Ontario with her husband and two lovable rescue dogs. When not growing vegetables, she continues her work as a vocalist, cantorial soloist and choir leader. She performs with an all-woman ensemble created for the performance of her project Thieves of Dreams, and with the project Silent Tears.



MADISON VIOLET

Madison Violet is a critically acclaimed, multi-instrumentalist duo that has been captivating audiences with their exquisite harmonies and heartfelt songwriting for over 2 decades. The duo is comprised of singer-songwriters, Brenley MacEachern and Lisa MacIsaac. Both are proud members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

The pair have racked up numerous awards and nominations over the span of their career, including a Canadian Folk award for 'Vocal Group of the Year', Critic's Choice Award from Country Music People's Magazine, JUNO nomination for 'Roots & Traditional Album of the Year,' and multiple ECMA nominations. Their songs have been featured in various film and television shows, MOJO Magazine's Top 10 Playlist, and received mass acclaim from outlets such as the BBC, the CBC, Maverick Magazine and NPR. Madison Violet were the first Canadians ever to win the Maxell John Lennon Songwriting Grand Prize and were on Germany's WDR's list of 'Best Bands of All Time'.

Madison Violet released their first ever, self-produced album 'eleven' in 2022.

Beyond their success in the studio and on stage, Madison Violet has earned praise for their songwriting abilities. Their lyrics are introspective, often exploring themes of love, loss, and resilience. With a unique blend of talent, authenticity, and a genuine love for their craft, Madison Violet continues to share their stories, leaving an indelible mark on the folk-pop landscape. Their remarkable achievements and unwavering commitment to their artistry have solidified their position as one of the most revered acts in contemporary folk music.

ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES



MAMA'S BROKE

Mama's Broke is a powerful folk duo that delivers a compelling performance with heart and raw energy. Although highly influenced by their Canadian roots, Lisa and Amy are based out of nowhere and everywhere.

Their two strong voices blend to create haunting harmonies, while they artfully juggle fiddle, banjo, guitar and mandolin, and incorporate traditional dance and foot percussion into their performance. Their original, and often dark, compositions push the boundaries of tradition and the constraints of genre. Drawing from old-time, Quebecois, blues, punk, Celtic, Balkan and doom metal, they create a soundscape that is both familiar and new.

Since forming the band in 2014, Mama's Broke has been gaining momentum fast; having already completed two European, and several Canadian and U.S. tours. They have performed in a wide range of venues, from circus shows in New Orleans, to pirate ships in Amsterdam, to concert halls in Ireland, to theatres in Brooklyn. In this way, they stay true to the transient nature of folklore, as they travel the world sharing and collecting song.

2017 brought the release of their debut album, *Count the Wicked*, which earned them a Canadian Folk Music Award for Ensemble of the Year as well as a nomination for an ECMA Rising Star Award. In 2022 they released their JUNO nominated sophomore album *Narrow line*, on Free Dirt Records.

The driving force behind this band is, and has always been, the commitment to challenge borders between people, places and traditions; while encouraging freedom of expression and community through music.



MIA KELLY

Mia Kelly is a singer-songwriter from Gatineau, Quebec who writes and performs in both French and English. Mia enralls listeners with a distinctive blend of Folk, Rock, and Blues and is making her mark in the Canadian folk music scene. Backed by her performance on guitar or piano and accompanied by foot percussion, Kelly's foot-stomping sing-a-longs are anchored by her powerful voice that emanates raw emotion. Her infectious energy captivates you as she shares her heartfelt stories & banter.

Swiftly gaining recognition as a poetic lyricist with a powerful and versatile voice, Mia is a born performer who radiates confidence on stage. With her knack for adapting the stories of the people she has connected with in her life, Mia is an imaginative storyteller who channels her raw and vulnerable emotions through her expertly crafted songs.

In August of 2022, Kelly released her first album '*Garden Through the War*'. Produced and mixed at Fixed Hinge Studio by Ottawa's Jim Bryson (Kathleen Edwards, The Tragically Hip) and mastered by Grammy-nominated Phillip Shaw Bova, the record demonstrates maturity in Kelly's songwriting. Exploring themes of resilience and growth that follow hardship, the album has already received recognition from the SOCAN Foundation. This year, Kelly was awarded Emerging Artist of the Year by Culture Outaouais, was nominated as Solo Artist of the Year at the Capital Music Awards, and has been selected to represent Canada in the 2023 Jeux De La Francophonie.

ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES



MICHAEL DARCY & THE ATLANTIC TRAMPS

After releasing his solo debut 'Simple Drop of Rain' in 2018, Canadian-based, Irish folk singer-songwriter Michael Darcy returned to the studio with his new band 'The Atlantic Tramps' in tow for the eagerly-awaited follow-up album, 'Down to the Roots'. Drawing from the well of rich Irish music that he grew up with and also being inspired by gritty American songwriters like John Prine & Guy Clark, he aimed to create a whirlwind of folk traditions where greengrass meets bluegrass. Released in July 2022 to critical acclaim, Down to the Roots was described by UK magazine 'Folk and Honey' as 'an excellent album; well-crafted songs with detailed arrangements brought to life with virtuosic flair.' 'Irish Music Magazine' raved that "Darcy's originals sit so comfortably within the genre that you'd swear they've been around for generations." The album also garnered a 2023 Canadian Folk Music Award nomination for 'Traditional Singer of the Year'.



SHAKURA S'AIDA

Shakura S'Aida is an award-winning performer, who has travelled the globe for more than two decades, connecting and inspiring audiences with her powerful vocals. An undeniable talent and an advocate for human rights, her artistic work reflects that which impacts and connects us all: Community, life, and lov. "I believe we all have a responsibility to look after each other," says the Toronto-based artist. "I see, create, and use music as a way to bring people together."

A central figure in Toronto's music scene, the Brooklyn-born, Swiss-raised entertainer has garnered not only an international recording and touring career but has shined on the theatre stage as star and creator of the four-woman tribute to Nina Simone, The Nina Project, and in roles on-screen including as Lena, member of the beloved 'Jazzagals' in the acclaimed series Schitt's Creek, and most recently as Cora Lewis, mother to Batwoman in DC Comics / Warner Brothers hit series of the same name.

With her first new album in ten years, Shakura is back with Hold on to Love; this time in the producer chair alongside co-producers Donna Grantis (Prince/3rd Eye Girl), Keb' Mo,' and Roger Costa (Jeff Healey). The new album features collaborations with international artists, including Eric Gales, Lee Oskar, Terra Lightfoot, Kyla Charter, Larnell Lewis and more.



THE FITZGERALDS

The Fitzgeralds are a sibling band comprised of 3-time Canadian Grand Master Fiddle and Step Dance champions, Tom, Kerry & Julie Fitzgerald. With roots in Canada's renowned Ottawa Valley, their art form stems from the rich tradition of Ottawa Valley fiddling and step dancing. Over the past 15 years, The Fitzgeralds' musical style has evolved to include a strong focus on original compositions and arrangements that fuse their traditional fiddle roots with more modern influences. They have 3 albums to their name, and were nominated for 'Instrumental Group of the Year' at the 2020 Canadian Folk Music Awards. They have toured extensively, performing at theatres and festivals across North America, Germany, and the UK. They have also been featured guests with Canada's Natalie McMaster and Ireland's Nathan Carter among others. In 2017, The Fitzgeralds went 'viral' on Facebook via Ireland's leading newspaper (Independent.ie), with over 8 million views of their original choreographed dance routine! Most recently, they released their debut Christmas album 'A Canadian Christmas', which was nominated for 'ACTRA Recording Artist of the Year' by the Ontario Folk Music Awards 2022.

ONTARIO FOLK MUSIC AWARD 2023 NOMINEES



YAO

Poétique, Groovy, Funk par moment et Soul dans son ensemble, Yao, de sa voix grave, réussit à charmer par l'univers chaleureux de sa douce poésie et par son audace artistique.

Son écriture imagée - empreinte d'une très grande sensibilité - nous rappelle la richesse textuelle du rap français de MC Solaar, d'Abdel Malik ou d'Oxmo Puccino, avec un côté pop éclectique - où les univers musicaux se succèdent et s'entrelacent à travers les frasques de ce poète.

Après de nombreux prix (Trille Or, Capital Music Awards, Médaille du Sénat, Canadian Song Writing Competition, et la Fondation SPACQ prix Edith Butler) et multiples spectacles à l'échelle nationale et internationale, entre 10 des provinces et territoires), ainsi qu'une douzaine de pays (France, Suisse, Belgique, Madagascar, Algérie, Tunisie, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Togo, Benin et Maroc, Cap-Vert), Yao, avec ses musiciens, propose un spectacle personnel, vibrant et captivant, que vous voudrez voir plus d'une fois.

WOMEN'S BLUES REVUE

Divine Brown. Sandra Bouza, Garnetta Cromwell, Laura Hubert, Charlotte McAfee-Brunner, Dawn Tyler Watson

Friday, November 17
Massey Hall, 178 Victoria St., Toronto

The All-Star Backing Band
 Elena Kapeleris (bandleader), Carrie Chesnutt,
 Marie Goudy, Alison Young, Stacie McGregor,
 Emily Burgess, Morgan Doctor and Angelique Francis

Canada **MASSEY HALL**

Logos: Toronto Blues Society, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council, Canada, Massey Hall.

TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY
BLUES SUMMIT ELEVEN

Blues Summit 11 will take place from February 9 - 12, 2024. All Blues Summit events and panels will be at the Chelsea Hotel in downtown Toronto. Register now at www.torontobluesociety.com.

About the Summit

The Blues Summit is a conference creating opportunities for the blues community to personally connect with key leaders in the industry, and attend professional development seminars, working meetings, and showcase concerts. The bi-annual Blues Summit is the largest meeting of blues artistic directors in Canada with representatives from over 30 top draw blues festivals and blues societies across Canada and the U.S., and Europe.

The Summit features 30 showcase performances, seminars, networking events, and a welcome reception keynote address by Ontario Arts Council CEO Michael Murray. Delegates include musicians, DJs, record label reps, festival artistic directors, journalists, promoters, and blues societies.

Blues Summit 11 will close with the 27th Annual Maple Blues Awards on February 12, 2024 at the Phoenix Concert Theatre

Register for the Summit @ www.torontobluesociety.com

	MUSICIANS*	DELEGATES
EARLY BIRD <small>(Until November 30, 2023)</small>	\$110.00	\$155.00
REGULAR <small>(As of December 1, 2023)</small>	\$130.00	\$175.00

*All prices subject to 13% HST + \$6 Service Charge
 *Musician & Member Rate valid only by promo code available to musicians and TBS charter members & equivalents.
 Note: Conference delegate passes do not include admission to The Maple Blues Awards. Tickets for this event must be purchased separately.

CHELSEA Hotel
 TORONTO

Guests who would like to benefit from special TBS room rates starting at \$179.00 per night during the Summit can book their rooms by calling the hotel directly, toll free at 1-800-CHELSEA (243-5732) or 416-595-1975. They must identify themselves as part of Blues Summit to take advantage of the discounted group rate. For on-line bookings please e-mail the TBS office at info@torontobluesociety.com for a direct link to book at the discount rate.

Logos: Factor, Ontario Creates, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council, Canada, Socan.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



ADRIAN SUTHERLAND

Adrian Sutherland is a roots-rock recording artist with heart from Attawapiskat on James Bay. He's a singer, songwriter, speaker, author, advocate, entrepreneur, and the fascinating founder and frontman of all-Cree rockers Midnight Shine. He's also a traditional knowledge keeper and respected cultural leader, fluent in Mushkegowuk Cree. After constructing his own recording studio inside a shipping container during the pandemic, Adrian worked remotely with producers Colin Linden (Nashville) and Tim Vesely (Toronto) to record debut solo album *When The Magic Hits* earning nominations at the 2022 JUNO Awards and 2023 Canadian Folk Music Awards.



AERIALISTS

JUNO nominated neo-folk group Aerialists take a distinctive hybrid approach to tradition, combining deep roots in Scottish Gaelic, Norwegian, and Irish folk music with a unique post rock bent. On harp, fiddle, guitar, bass, & drums, Aerialists are ethereal yet precise, technical yet visceral.



ALEKSI CAMPAGNE

Aleksi Campagne is a bilingual contemporary indie-folk fiddle-singer from Montreal. As the son of Canadian Folk icon Connie Kaldor and student of Jazz Violin Legend Didier Lockwood, Aleksi combines his powerful voice with rich songwriting, all while accompanying himself on the violin and seamlessly switching between english and french.



ALEXANDER SAINT

Alexander Saint is an artist with bloodlines, deeply tied to the Toronto music scene through his Guyanese-Canadian father. Saint's music is a mature take of honest storytelling about loss, love, and getting off your damn phone.



ALLISON LUPTON BAND

Acclaimed singer/songwriter, flutist and multiple CFMA nominee, Allison Lupton delights listeners with story songs and tunes that take you away to another time and then dance you home again. She has released 4 solo albums, touring here at home and across the UK with members of her all-star band featuring Andrew Collins, Shane Cook, Tony McManus, Joseph Phillips and Ivan Rosenberg. Her most recent release *Words of Love* earned Allison a CFMA nomination for Traditional Singer of the Year.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



AMANDA PENNER

Amanda Penner is a Folk artist from Edmonton who delivers a fierce introspection far beyond her years in her lyricism, only growing in complexity, wit, and wisdom with each listen. Penner has connected with audiences at festivals including the Canmore Folk Festival, Edmonton Folk Festival and the Lethbridge Roots Festival.



AMMOYE

6-time Juno nominee, Ammoye delivers a wholly unique future forward reggae sound that incorporates old-school rocksteady, dancehall and dubstep with soul and R&B. With her unique, multidimensional voice and messages of empowerment, Jamaican-born Ammoye is a lightworker and self-declared soul rebel.



ANDDRE MAFRA & THE REFLECTIONS

Anddre Mafra and The Reflections are a folk collective from London. Anddre was a Spotlight Showcase performer at the Folk Music Ontario Conference (2022). Nominated for the EMAC Studios Band of the Year at Fanshawe (2023), "Anddre and The Reflections" portray the feeling of an intimate living room at each show.



ANTHEA FEAVER

Anthea Feaver is a singer-songwriter and traditional folk musician based in Kingston, Ontario. Her debut EP, "Play It Back," reached #1 on Earshot's Folk/Roots/Blues charts, and she is currently working on material for a new album.



BARBRA LICA

Barbra Lica is a JUNO-nominated singer-songwriter based in Toronto who has headlined on stages around the world. Her 2018 album, *You're Fine*, a cross-genre project combining elements of jazz, folk, and indie pop, has amassed over 5.4 million streams to date on Spotify. She is currently promoting her first ever self-produced EP *Imposter Syndrome*.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



BEAU WHEELER

Beau Wheeler is a queer non-binary powerhouse singer/songwriter based in Vancouver. Beau's dynamic range can lift an audience to its feet in a moment and in the next, stop your heart so the whole room could hear a pin drop. One of Vancouver's punchiest singers.



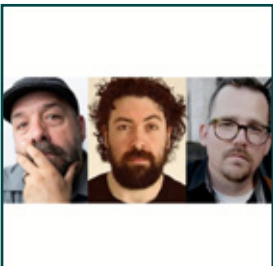
BENJ ROWLAND

Benj Rowland is the singer-songwriter and instrumentalist behind the well loved Canadian folk duo Mayhemingways. Having toured across Canada many times as part of a band, Community Garden is Benj's first solo album released under his own name. Recorded and produced by Joel Plaskett at his Dartmouth Studio, the album features a collection of songs that speak to small town Ontario.



BERK JODOIN

Indigenous singer/songwriter Berk Jodoin's carefully crafted songs cover difficult topics that are often ignored. Berk hopes that sharing these stories through song bring awareness and understanding to these issues. Fusing together his influences like Steve Earle and Waylon Jennings creates soulful storytelling with just the right amount of gravel.



BILINGUIST BOYS

The Bilingual Boys are a hilariously-engaging trio from Sudbury, Ontario. Stef Paquette, Dayv Poulin and Edouard Landry have blended in their successful solo projects to create a unique cocktail of vocals, guitars, improv and comedy. They have all the right moves, in both of Canada's official languages.



BROCK STONEFISH

Brock Stonefish has released his debut album after 20 years of touring the United States, Canada, and South Korea. The album titled "Turtle Island" was produced by famed Actor/Musician Gary Farmer who also joined the album playing harmonica and backup vocals. The sound Engineer Jono Manson captured the sound of 90's GRAMMY winning rock band Blues Traveler. Currently the track "Residential Redemption" is #1 on Top 40 Indigenous Music Countdown, Also on the album is "Pounding On My Soul" the single that reached #6 on Top 40 back in 2021 featured on SIRIUS XM Satellite Radio. Brock Stonefish has performed over the years alongside many celebrated names like BB King, Ice Cube, Kiss, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Our Lady Peace, Steven Page and Taj Mahal. In the summer of 2022 Brock Stonefish took the stage at a LANDBACK concert with Serena Ryder on drums and Tom Wilson on Vocals. Brock Stonefish is no stranger to Serena Ryder as they studied guitar together in a prestigious high school arts program. Along with Derek Miller, Brock Stonefish was a feature on the Gary Farmer Troublemaker All Star Tour summer of 2023.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



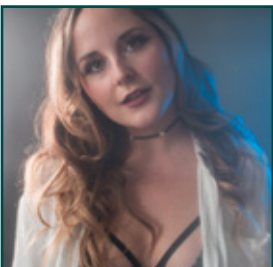
BROKE FUSE

Broke Fuse is a one-man blues band from Toronto. Jay Moonah, the man in question, has been a fixture on the scene for 30+ years. Broke Fuse has been performing to rave reviews since 2014, and was nominated "New Artist of the Year" for the 2022 Maple Blues Awards.



BROOKE BLACKBURN

Brooke Blackburn Canadian Singer Songwriter Guitarist for Juno nominated band The Blackburn Brothers formed The Bentley Collective as a Acoustic Soul solo project. As a songwriter and a descendent from enslaved peoples that came to the north to search for freedom their is a focus on a historical events on many compositions. With the release of TBC's solo album, Songs, the band has been performing throughout Toronto and have established a few weekly residencies that keeps the vibe fresh. Through the shutdown the to opportunity to write and record at home set-forth a single release Heroes and another 2 albums worth of material that will be released in 2023/ 2024 and could be heard presently on stage during the bands live performances. I recently performed in Memphis at the International Blues Competition (IBC's) and reached the semi finals. The music has a message and a groove.



BROOKLYN DORAN

Brooklyn Doran (she/her) is a queer singer-songwriter originally from the heart of Northwestern Ontario, who has been a staple of the Toronto folk scene for over ten years. Doran's unique sound weaves song and storytelling; the polarity between her music and personality create a harmonious blend of wit and humour contrasted by vulnerable lyricism and haunting melody.



CALLIE MCCULLOUGH

A modern songwriter inspired by timeless bluegrass and old-school country music, Callie McCullough has chased her unique muse for years, making contemporary roots music that nods to the legends who came before her. It's a sound anchored by intimate ballads and McCullough's gorgeous voice, whose Alison Krauss-worthy tone and Dolly Parton-sized beauty stand in contrast to her dry humor and larger-than-life personality. McCullough's Debut album has quickly put her on the map garnering a Canadian Country Music Association CCMA Nomination for Alternative Country Album of the Year, two CMAO Nominations for Rising Star and Songwriters of the Year, National Television Appearances, and glowing features from Industry giants Billboard Magazine, American Songwriter, and CMT. Emotional and eclectic, After Midnight features first-class picking from members of the Grammy-winning bluegrass band Union Station and western-swing super-group The Time Jumpers.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



CAMILO RESTREPO

Camilo's soloist repertoire ranges from classic Robert Johnson takes, to the more obscure predecessors of the genre, while stopping to salute folk masters such as Dave van Ronk and Doc Watson. Camilo's rendition of classic tunes are meticulously respectful of original recordings while inevitably conveying his personal sensitivities. Camilo plays all around Toronto, a city that continues to provide the atmosphere for him to hone his skills and channel his lifelong love for the Blues. Camilo has played solo acoustic Blues in the US, Canada and South America.



CHARLIE A'COURT

Planted at the crossroads of roots and soul, Charlie A'Court possesses a mighty voice, fierce guitar work and contemporary songwriting that is felt by fans across Canada and beyond. His latest album, *When Country Gets The Blues*, is nominated for Country Recording of The Year at the 2022 East Coast Music Awards. Often stylistically compared to mentors like Eric Clapton and Otis Redding, Charlie has always been recognized for exploring his musical horizons. As a five-time ECMA winner and eight-time Nova Scotia Music Award winner Charlie has earned awards for Blues, Pop, and R&B/Soul Recordings of the Year, and on multiple occasions been recognized as Entertainer of the Year. A'Court has also received multiple Maple Blues Award nominations including Male Vocalist and Songwriter of the Year.



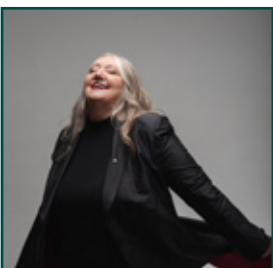
CHARM OF FINCHES

Australian sister duo Charm of Finches deliver intricate folk-pop that is simultaneously graceful and darkly bewitching. Their seamless blood harmonies traverse melancholy and wonder in equal measure. Winners of the Australian Folk Music Awards Best Folk Album (2022) and Music Victoria Best Folk Act (2021), the duo toured the UK/EU extensively during 22/23.



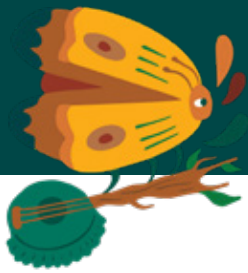
CLAIRE COUPLAND

There is a pureness to Claire's voice that can silence a room. A moving songwriter and compelling guitarist, Claire combines smooth folk finger picking, jazz influenced progressions, soaring melodies and a graceful contemporary feel to folk music, always with a touch of her 'wicked sense of humour' (Rik Emmett, Triumph).



CONNIE KALDOR

Folk icon Connie Kaldor, CM is celebrating 45 years in show business with her upcoming 18th album! Three-time Juno-award winner, she began her career in the Canadian wave alongside artists Stan Rogers, Ferron, and Valdy. 'A masterful performer, wildly funny one moment, deeply personal the next.' *The Boston Globe*



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



CRISTIAN DE LA LUNA

Cristian de la Luna's pop-Latin-folk music is both contagious and inviting. A versatile artist that combines the simplicity of folk story-telling, Caribbean percussion and the jazzy warmth of brass instruments. Deeply rooted in his Colombian roots, he explores the four corners of his heart through the depth of emotions to the playful naivety of our childhood. Cristian has two albums to his credit, both in Spanish and in French. His performances are endearing and captivating. « Mi casa es en todas partes » (My home is where we are together): Cristian seeks a communion with his audience. A ray of light, both his music and his lyrics are his invitation to a musical and impactful experience. His universal message calls us to live in the present and never stop dreaming.



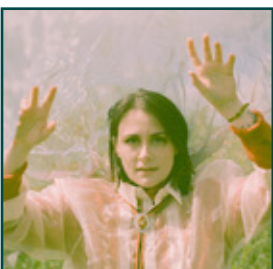
DAVID LARONDE TRIO

David Laronde is an Indigenous singer-songwriter and a proud Teme-Augama Anishnabai (Deep Water People) from Lake Temagami in Northern Ontario. His contemporary music is equal parts of traditional Indigenous, folk, rock and blues with David's own brand of soothing baritone vocal stylings and backed by the finest of musicians Peter Cliche and Dylan Shigwadja.



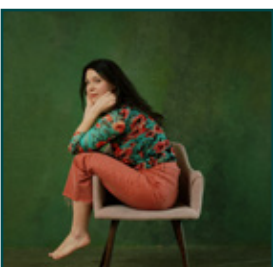
DIGGING ROOTS

WINNER OF THE 2023 JUNO AWARD FOR CONTEMPORARY INDIGENOUS GROUP OF THE YEAR Digging Roots breathe life into songs from their land, Turtle Island, to raise their voices in solidarity with a global chorus of Indigenous artists, activists and change-makers. For over a decade, two-time JUNO Award winners Digging Roots have traveled the world with a joyful message of resistance, celebrating Anishinaabe and Onkwehón: we traditions of round dance and interconnectedness through a fusion of blues, soul and rock n'roll.



ELLEN FROESE

Ellen Froese is what you'd call a 'prolific artist'; committed, too. For someone who only just passed the threshold of their mid-20s, she's amassed a resolutely solid body of work and, with a variety of projects, achieved more than some many years her senior. For Each Flower Growing, Froese's fourth full-length, produced in collaboration with the Sheepdogs' Sam Corbett, is her most accomplished statement to date, drawing on her established sound as a folk & country-based singer/songwriter while incorporating a wider frame of reference in the rich production, supple instrumentation, and overall sonic soundworld. It's much harder to pin down than any simple description can convey, making it all the more worthwhile to check out.



EMILY JEAN FLACK

Emily Jean Flack is not content to play it safe and stick to the status quo. Her fearless approach to blending traditional Celtic and modern sounds is what sets her apart from the rest. Her live performances are nothing short of electrifying, as she combines her original songs, Celtic instrumentals, and percussive step dancing to create a truly one-of-a-kind experience. At the heart of her craft is her undeniable voice. With her debut EP released in 2020, EJF quickly built a devoted following with her unique sound and raw emotion. In her most recent project "How You Love Me" set to be released in spring 2023, she is poised to take her sound to the next level, pushing the boundaries of pop music. With her exceptional talent and unique approach, Emily Jean Flack is a true Canadian artist.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



EMILY SCHULTZ

Recognized by David Foster as a world-class, up-and-coming talent, Emily Schultz's honest songwriting, dynamic voice and raw onstage presence is highly inviting, invoking nostalgia, hope and light with her fresh take on folk.



EMPRESS NYIRINGANGO

Ottawa based Rwandan Canadian singer-songwriter Empress Nyiringango is a self-taught musician, showcasing the self-titled Jablur sound, which stands for jazz, blues, and Rwandan. This distinctive fusion features Rwanda's oldest instrument 'Inanga' (Zither) and contemporary music. Singing in Kinyarwanda, Swahili, French, and English; she conveys positive messages to the world.



ERICA DEE MAH

Erica Dee Mah is a singer-songwriter, storyteller, and contemporary guzheng player based in Whitehorse, Yukon. She writes lyrically rich songs on the traditional 21-stringed Chinese zither that explore themes of Chinese-Canadian identity across generations. Her latest release, "The Sargasso Season" earned national media recognition.



FIRE & SMOKE

Fire & Smoke is a bilingual folk-roots partnership uniting exciting harmonies, deft storytelling, and ever-evolving live instrumentation. Find their single 'How It Is' (Feb 17 2023) via Exclaim's The Eh! List, CBC, and indie media cross-country. 2023 highlights: Winnipeg Folk Fest, Lunenburg Folk Harbour Fest (NS), Festival du Voyageur (MB).



GABRIEL SCHWARTZ

The multinstrumentalist Gabriel Schwartz presents his one man show - Solo. The repertoire is based on Brazilian folk music, with standards and originals. Gabriel conducts his performance constructing arrangements in real time with the aid of his loop station or also making solos of flute, saxophone, voice, and 8-string guitar.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



GARNETTA CROMWELL & DAGROOVMASTERS

Garnetta Cromwell, the magnetic lead vocalist, embarked on her musical journey as a young girl in Montreal. Being the youngest of eight siblings, she was raised in an Afro-Metis household, where music became her solace. Despite facing a hearing impairment during her childhood that required surgical treatment, Garnetta's passion for music remained unwavering. She found inspiration in gospel, blues, country, and soul music, and started performing at talent contests. Her music also served as a tribute to her mother, Marva Ann Fairfax, who used music to survive and thrive.

Garnetta later became the lead vocalist and drummer for Toronto's first all female reggae band, Sweet Sensation. Garnetta has performed on the same stage with Platinum/Grammy Award artists Maxi Priest, Shabba Ranks, Shaggy, Gregory Issac, Sean Kingston and Platinum/Grammy soul legends Percy Sledge, Dorothy Moore, The Manhattan and have recently performed on stage with the King of Boogie Woogie, Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne.

She performed at the 35th Annual Women Blues Revue held at Massey Hall, in Toronto, Ontario, with some of Canada's top female blues singers. November/22. In 2021, after facing numerous personal challenges, she decided to take full-time control of her band,

Garnetta Cromwell & DaGroovmasters, determined to create music that reflected her life's journey. The band itself, DaGroovmasters, is composed of talented musicians specializing in soulful blues.



GENEVIÈVE RACETTE

Winner of the CFMA 'Emerging singer-songwriter of the Year', Geneviève Racette launched her third folk-pop album *Satellite*, collaborating with City and Color. Surrounded by an all-female team, Geneviève conquers fans through her intimate vocals, lush instruments and expressive harmonies, evoking moments of love, heartbreak, healing and falling in love again.



HALEY MIDGETTE

Haley Midgette is a Toronto-based actor and singer-songwriter from Scarborough, Ontario. Combining a classic folk sound with modern atmospheric elements, Haley's music is driven by vulnerable, introspective lyrics, and melodies both elegant and catchy. She's appeared in indie films and national commercial broadcasts in the US in Canada.



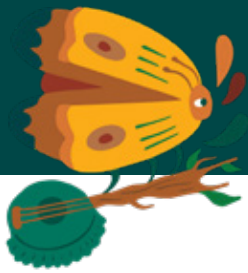
HEARTH & HYMN

Hearth & Hymn is a close harmony project produced by Samantha Cooper and Elisabeth Pixley-Fink. Beloved artists in the Michigan music scene, their masterful vocal blend captures a room. Hearth & Hymn reimagines old songs and pens future classics through a queer, feminist lens. Their current project is *Lullaby Bangers* (Earthwork Music).



ilyAIMY

Bait shops, biker weeks, folk fests and clothing-optional resorts - Baltimore's ilyAIMY has played it ALL nationwide for more than two decades. Innovative acoustic guitar, rapid-fire lyricism and even beatboxing is softened with cello, soulful vocals and lush three and four-part harmonies. An award-winning, 'welcome jolt in folk.'



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



INN ECHO

Inn Echo weave hundreds of years of traditional tunes with contemporary originals and arrangements that both soar and make you catch your breath simultaneously. With technical precision, their mastery of instruments is the talk in the national and international folk music scene. From Music PEI award nominations to tours of Austria, Australia and Ireland, Inn Echo is bar none the traditional band to watch as they emerge as Prince Edwards Islands greatest Celtic fusion exports in years to come.



JABBOUR

Quebec bilingual group Jabbour creates roots music with accents from the regional communities where the band members live - from the Laurentians to Montérégie. The band has been delivering heartfelt songwriting, driving two-steps, waltzes and epic pieces of music on the Canadian folk scene since 2015.



JANE & KYLE

Canadian fiddle champions Jane Cory and Kyle Burghout have performed across Canada, the USA, and Europe. They join forces to create innovative arrangements filled with lush twin fiddle harmonies, featuring a blend of the traditional tunes they grew up playing and contemporary tunes written by fiddlers from across Canada.



JANICE JO LEE

Janice Jo Lee (she/they) is a queer folk musician based in Tkaronto, Ontario. She is a contemporary folk-roots-jazz singer songwriter, composer-sound designer, spoken word poet, theatre maker, and arts/anti-oppression facilitator. She is interested in using art to build flourishing communities based in justice and joy. Her work explores gender justice, antiracism, workers rights, friendship, community, ancestry and the Earth. They tour solo, with a trio, and with a band.



JC CAMPBELL

As an Indigenous artist, JC Campbell has a unique perspective on the world, writing about difficult subjects, but at the same time offering powerful messages of hope in dark times. Incorporating positive energy into often painful subject matter is something Country/Blues singer Campbell has always strived to achieve.

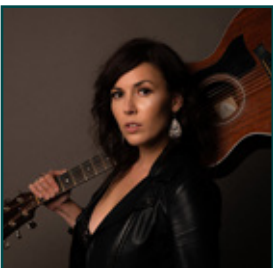


2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



JESSE CORRIGAN & THE NEUSTADT SOUND

Jesse Corrigan & The Neustadt Sound bring energy, enthusiasm and experience beyond their years to all their shows. From foot-on-the-floor funky country burners to harmony heavy heart break ballads, these cats are always sure to deliver.



JESSIE T

Jessie T packs a punch - Her FACTOR funded debut album Reckless Heart was released September 2016 and produced by J. Richard Hutt (Northern Pikes, Tom Cochrane). Headlining venues and festivals across Ontario, Jessie has performed most notably at Manitoulin Country Fest, JUNO Host City Music Exchange, Trackside Music Festival and KW 50th Oktoberfest alongside Dallas Smith for a duo performance of Smith's hit song One Drink Ago. Jessie has also played stages alongside artists like Paul Brandt, James Barker Band, The Reklaws, Michelle Wright, Dan Davidson, and Jason Blaine. Jessie is releasing her second studio album Burning Back in spring 2023.



JULIE TITLE

Julie Title is a singer-songwriter based in Toronto, Canada. Her style is influenced by 70s folk as well as the wave of confessional women songwriters she grew up with in the 90s. In 2021, she received the Colleen Peterson Songwriting Award from the Ontario Arts Council and Folk Music Ontario for her song "Ghost". In 2022, "Four Horsemen" was nominated for Folk Music Ontario's Song of the Year Award. Her original music has been featured on ABC's hit TV show "The Fosters" as well as the popular CBC drama "Burden of Truth". Title's music has also been featured regularly on SiriusXM's "North Americana", CBC Music, and roots stations across Canada, the US and the UK. Nashville's "Music Mecca" recently described her songwriting as "lucid and poetic... open-ended and timeless." Title's debut full length record "After the Sun" was released in August 2022.



JUNIOR SANTOS

Juno and Marty's Award Nominee. Junior Santos was born in the Dominican Republic. Came to Canada in 1989, studied at Humber College, this Dominican born percussionist has recorded and performed with numerous influential bands and ensembles. Junior Santos work contributes to the showcasing and development of a unique rhythm of the Dominican Republic called Pambiche, a unique rhythm derived from Merengue.



JUST PRINCE

I go by the artist name, "Just Prince". I am a Toronto-based singer-songwriter performing a unique combination of Indian classical and western indie-folk music. I have played music all my life. Born in a small town in India, I performed professionally in my home country for over 5 years and have been performing in venues across Canada for the past 4 years. I've played in renowned Toronto venues like the El Macombo and the Horseshoe Tavern and bring a unique sonic exploration to all of my performances whether solo, or with a band. I'm at a point where I'm very confident with my skills as an artist and I can really add a unique, not often heard texture to the already beautiful palette of FMO.

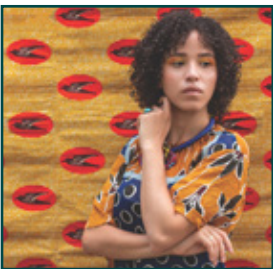


2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



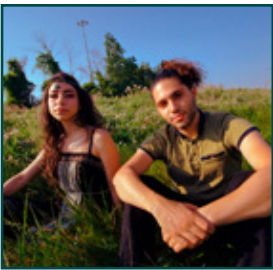
KAELEY JADE

Kaeley Jade is a Métis singer/songwriter, actor, and multidisciplinary artist based in Edmonton, Alberta (amiskwaciwâskahikan). Blending lush imagery and hooky melodic lines to create her own brand of pop-forward indie folk music, her debut full-length album, *Turpentine*, is available now.



KAIA KATER

Grenadian-Canadian Kaia Kater's jazz-fueled voice and deft songcraft have garnered acclaim from NPR, Rolling Stone and No Depression. On 'Grenades' (2018), Kaia leaned into a wide array of topics, notably her Caribbean ancestry. Recent projects include "Parallels" (2021) and songwriting for 'The Porter' (CBC/BET+) TV series. Her new album 'Strange Medicine' lands in the fall of 2023.



KAELEY JADE

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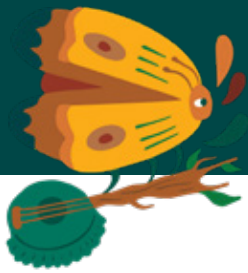
KEN DUNN

Tempered by experience and fuelled by passion, Ken Dunn's music sneaks into your feet, heart, and soul. Distilling disparate life experiences into a proficient set of musical skills, his unique songs and stories take audiences on a healing journey of love and self-discovery. With decades of touring and ten critically acclaimed albums to his credit, Ken writes, performs, and records with the intention of promoting peace, social, and environmental justice. Alternatively light-hearted and pensive, contemporary, yet infused with tradition, this is music focused on positive human values, with diversity and inclusivity at its core.



KING CARDIAC

King Cardiac drapes heartfelt songwriting in a technicolour dream coat of unbridled horns and brooding rhythms. The genre bending ensemble features singer-songwriter and guitarist Gabriel DeSantis uniting with Toronto heavyweights; Paul Metcalfe, Sam Petite, Tom Richards, Lowell Whitty and Alan Zemaitis to explore matters that rule the heart with hard grooves and brooding vibes.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



KORA FLAMENCA

Following the success of *Kora flamenca* (Félix of the year - best world music album at ADISQ and the Canadian Folk Music Awards in the best world music album category), Zal Sissokho and Caroline Planté once again combine their 2 cultures musical: Afro-Mandingo music and flamenco.

Kora flamenca II are 10 new songs, shared equally between the two composers and artists. Through their music, Zal (kora and voice) and Caroline Planté (flamenco guitar and voice) offer a colorful journey, to the sound of their encounter, accompanied by Miguel Medina on percussion and Jean Félix Mailloux on double bass.



KRISTEN MARTELL

Kristen's earthy introspective folk/pop songs have the warmth of a golden sunset. With intricate and moody elements, her songs embrace life's challenges and quiet moments of beauty, reminiscent of Sarah McLachlan. Her latest album 'Every Season' (Sept 30, 2022) is her most confident, self-assured and emotionally compelling work to date. It is also up for the 2023 ECMA 'Album of the Year' and 'Folk Recording of the Year'.



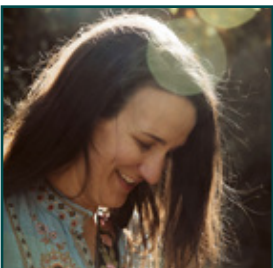
KUNE

KUNE is an eleven-piece collective made up of ten immigrant musicians from all over the world and one metis-Canadian. KUNE's artistic practice captures and recreates the experience of living in Toronto, one of the world's most diverse cities. The musicians are from places like Iraq, Cuba, Peru, Burkina-Faso and China. The instruments they play are not often played together on stage; like the Tar, the Dizi, the Cajon and the Ngoni. It is a space in which to remember where we came from and learn from each other's differences. Together KUNE members compose, arrange and perform music that honors their cultural roots and creates connections with others through curiosity, experimentation and dialogue.



KUNLE

Kunle is a Nigerian-born multi-instrumentalist, singer, and songwriter based in Toronto. His music blends contemporary styles with West African rhythms and stories, earning him recognition, numerous awards, and an Ontario Premier Award nomination. Kunle recently served as music director for the Stratford Festival's 2022 play *Death and The King's Horseman* by Wole Soyinka.



LAND HEART SONG

Land Heart Song is Tiiu Strutt (she/her), a songwriter and educator, passionate about supporting families and children in nurturing their love for the land through song. With catchy melodies and endearing stage presence, Land Heart Song's performances spark wonder and joy, inspiring everyone in the family to sing along and deepen relationship with the natural world.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



LEAF RAPIDS

The band Leaf Rapids combines gritty guitar with angelic vocals, bass and drums and the eerie sound of the theremin to create a Canadiana soundscape. They croon about circling vultures, barbershop stabbings and velvet paintings to name a few. Collectively the band boasts Juno Awards, International tours and decent hygiene.



LEAH HOLTOM

With her tender, yet powerfully soaring vocals, Leah has always had a gift to impact people with her music. Born and raised in Brampton, 22 year old Leah truly embodies and embraces the storytelling nature of country, folk and bluegrass music, aiming to bring connection and authenticity through her artistry.



LES ROYAL PICKLES

The Royal Pickles have built a repertoire rich in history, as well as original compositions inspired by the New Orleans Hot Jazz pioneers of the 1920s and 1930s. The vibrant energy of the Royal Pickles has made them an essential part of Montreal nightlife, festivals and dance competitions alike.



LITTLE MISTY

Little Misty is a progressive folk band from Montreal, formed by singer Kathryn Samman and guitarist François Jalbert. Known for their projects in the Montreal jazz scene and their work with bands like Bellflower and Tunnel, the young duo stepped out of the box into a more folk/bluegrass and progressive sound.

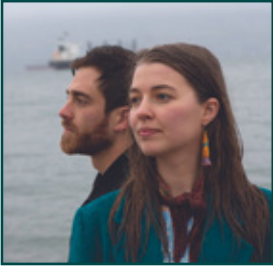


LOCARNO

Locarno is a Mexican-based, Latin music project based out of Vancouver, BC. It's mostly acoustic in nature and draws heavily on Mexican musical idioms such as Son Jarocho, Huapango, and Marimba based folk music. The band oscillates between original compositions and traditional songs.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



LOGAN AND NATHAN

Featuring the ethereal voice of Logan Thackray and guitar stylings of Nathan Turner Vancouver-based duo Logan and Nathan blend folk with influences of jazz syncopation and soul. Swapping songs and weaving improvisation through harmonies.



LONESOME ACE

The Lonesome Ace Stringband is an old-time trio with bluegrass chops that plays really good folk music. With trio vocals over fiddle, banjo and bass, they draw the listener in with a sound that ranges from sparse fragility to a joyous bellow that sounds like a much bigger band.



LOS VARIANTS

Los Variants is the brainchild of Vince Maccarone. We celebrate diversity by bending some of the rules of staying in one genre, this 5-piece super band uses versatile musicians deliver a spectacular performance and explore the connections between our collective musical and cultural backgrounds to create a seamless mosaic of international groove.



LUKE WALLACE

Luke Wallace embodies a new wave of politically charged folk music. Luke is found performing at festivals, The United Nations, venues all over North America, writing the soundtrack for a movement of people rising up to meet the challenges of our times.



MARTHE HALVORSEN

Marthe Halvorsen is a Montreal based Norwegian artist, songwriter and producer who weaves together dreamy evocative Indie Folk Music. Her debut album All is in the Seed was released in 2018, receiving great acclaim around the world. Several of the songs from her album made it on to Norwegian National Radio as well as CBC Radio in Canada. With a unique sincerity in her voice Marthe Halvorsen has a special ability to touch something deep inside the listener. Having grown up in Arctic Norway, nature has always been an important source of inspiration in her music. The spaciousness and the raw unpolished landscapes of the north can be traced in her sense of songwriting and taste in music production. With a love for a minimalistic and an unpolished sound, Marthe seeks to write songs that carry an intention and that comes from an authentic place within herself. Emerging out of the thriving music scene of Montreal, Marthe Halvorsen is currently in the process of finishing her sophomore album, to be released later this year. On her new album the Norwegian artist has been diving deeper into the producer role, crafting and perfecting her very own characteristic sound.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



MATT ZADDY

Matt Zaddy is a storyteller at heart. Blending folk-rock / modern soul, his music is layered with tales of life, love, hardship, & redemption, and the intention of building real connection, regardless of genre restrictions. His new single 'What Comes Around' was released in June 2023, with 182 Spotify playlists adds.



MEREDITH MOON

Meredith Moon has spent the last decade travelling her home of Canada, and the world, by multiple means, finding inspiration for her unique style of songs which are crafted in a true storyteller's fashion. She has been described as a 'gem' among the Old-Time music scene for her unusual expression of the genre, combining influences of folk-punk with traditional Appalachian sound.



METÒ

Metò is a Quebec city based multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter and producer. As his father fell seriously ill in 2019 and had to be taken care of until his passing, Metò decided to adjourn his reality in triumphant melodies of romanticized epiphanies. From his bedroom and a friend's basement, he organically sewed a tunic of sound to produce his first EP: *Alstroemeria*.



MIA KELLY

Mia Kelly is a bilingual, Gatineau-based singer/songwriter. Through folk-roots with a soulful twist, her powerful voice draws audiences into heartfelt stories and raw emotions. Mia takes you on a journey through sweet ballads to sing-alongs and stomping feet. As one of Ottawa's ten artists to watch in 2020 (*Ottawa Citizen*), and Gatineau's young creative of 2022 (*Culturiades*), and Canadian representative at the Francophone Games 2023 in the Democratic republic of Congo, Mia Kelly is making her mark in the Canadian Folk scene.



MIKE STEVENS TRIO FEATURING THE SCHOTTS

Mike Stevens is an award-winning harmonica player, composer and author living in Sarnia, Ontario Canada. His talent is as unorthodox as his career trajectory. As a ground-breaking performer, composer, educator, keynote speaker and author, Mike continues to expand the paradigms of harmonica, balancing tradition with cutting-edge innovation.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



MIRJA KLIPPEL

The Finnish songwriter and singer, Mirja Klippel, is a remarkable talent on the alternative folk music scene. Based in Denmark and supported by the critically acclaimed guitarist Alex Jønsson, she draws the audience into an ethereal and organic universe, which has led to several nominations for Danish Music Awards.



MOIRA & CLAIRE

Nova Scotia's Moira & Claire write lighthearted, folk-pop songs that appeal to East and West Coasters and everyone in between. The sisters have been singing together for longer than their professional careers, their voices harmonizing in the kind of familial magic that only living together your entire life can attain.



MOSKITTO BAR

Moskitto Bar is a musical journey from Brittany the Celtic part of France, to the Middle East with a few stops in the Balkan and even south America. It's a band that represent the mix of cultures that you encounter in a city like Toronto. They have already performed all over Toronto and also in many festivals across Ontario and Quebec. They are ready to continue their journey and share their message of hope and joy.



MY SON THE HURRICANE

My Son the Hurricane is a multi-horn, multi-drummer, multi-singer brass funk beast from Niagara, ON. The 12-piece brass-dance crew has toured over multiple countries and played some of Canada, USA and Europe's biggest festivals. Over 45 sold out shows in 2022 proves that there is no live show like My Son the Hurricane. The band features trumpets, saxophones, trombones, drums, guitar, keys, percussion and a wild front woman. We dare you not to dance! In 2023, the band will take on an over 70 date Canada, United States and Europe-wide tour and share the stage with acts like Foo Fighters, Jason Isbell and Colin James.



NADINE ALTOUNJI

Montreal-based singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Nadine Altounji has been active on the cultural scene for some twenty years. In 2018, she spends four months in Ecuador and Peru to research regional musical traditions. A fruitful collaboration followed with Peruvian and Montreal artists that lead to the creation of her audio-visual EP: The Stories that Tie Us to Trees Vol. 1.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



NATASHA ROLDÁN

Natasha Roldán is a Colombian-Canadian singer-songwriter based in Toronto. Her music draws from the influences of jazz and traditional Latin American and European music with an alternative touch. Before its official release, her EP *No Apologies*, co-produced alongside Colombian producer/composer Jorge Gil, debuted on Canadian radio in three provinces, including a feature on JazzFM 91's *Jazzology*. Natasha and Jorge also joined forces to create *Songs to Travel the World*, a performance project that explores some of the most beautiful songs from abroad in different languages and genres, featuring guest musicians from diverse backgrounds. Natasha has been awarded the Ella Fitzgerald Award for Jazz Performance and the Sorbara Award in Music. She was also a two-time nominee for best jazz vocals at the Toronto Independent Music Awards (2015 & 2016), among other accolades. Natasha kicks off 2023 as one of RBC's Launchpad Artists, Small World Music Incubator Artists, and one of Tranzac's Artists in Residence, all while producing her first album *Ya No Estoy Aquí* (coming in 2023), with support from the Ontario Arts Council. In this album, Natasha shares stories about migration, violence in Latin America, revolution, and love through Latin Folk rhythms.



NOTAS DE 4

Notas de 4 is Calgary's original Latin Jazz ensemble, winner of Best World Recording of the year 2020 by YYC MUSIC Awards and was nominated twice for WCMA as Global Artist of the year 2021 & 2022. The ensemble's original compositions are inspired from Flamenco, Latin Jazz and traditional music from Cuba and Mexico.



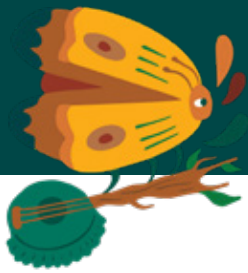
OH, BERLIN

Oh, Berlin is a new artist project fronted by singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and producer Ben Heffernan. Heffernan has recorded and toured as a solo artist since the mid-2010s, receiving acclaim via award nominations and appearances at high-profile festivals, but steps out into new territory with Oh, Berlin, a project which sees him exploring indie rock and dance rock sensibilities alongside his signature brand of folk-pop. On September 21, Oh, Berlin released its first single, entitled "Who's Gonna Love You Now?".



ONION HONEY

Onion Honey makes music like an old-fashioned string band - sweet and sharp and savoury, mountain music fresh from the Grand River Valley. The Kitchener-based quartet play retrofitted traditional tunes and original songs with old souls; they have been heard on radio stations across Canada and gig regularly around Southwestern Ontario.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



PASCALE LEBLANC

Singer-songwriter Pascale LeBlanc uses inspirations from her cultural mix (Quebec/Haïti) to create songs that blend French and Creole. On stage, we discover a multi-instrumentalist who has a beautiful talent as a storyteller. Her music has this disarming authenticity where cultures have only one race: the human race.



PAULA SOFÍA

Paula Sofía is a Guatemalan singer-songwriter based in Toronto. Most of her work is in Spanish, which makes her music and live performances very dynamic where she forms playful connections with the audience from the stage. She is able to convey universal themes through storytelling, imagery, and quirky songwriting. Her first solo project, *Quinto de Hora* (which translates into "A Fifth of an Hour"), produced by Alysha Brilla, is an album of 12 one-minute songs. This project marked the beginning of her career, as she plans to release the other 4 "Fifths of an Hour" over the years while collaborating with different artists to get "Around the Clock in 60 songs". She is currently working on her next conceptual project which will include 6 full-length songs.



PRESSGANG MUTINY

Pressgang Mutiny is a Toronto-based quartet of dynamic musicians and tall ship sailors, dedicated to discovering shanties and work songs and the people who sing them. They have toured extensively across Canada, the US, UK, and Europe, showcasing the world's first truly multicultural music. They are currently producing a record and documentary film with traditional shanty singers and sailors from St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



QUOTE THE RAVEN

Quote the Raven are a Newfoundland based duo who charm audiences with haunting harmony and a deadpan humour. An extensive tour history over the past few years they have travelled Canada, performing at some major festivals as well as Trinidad, Germany and showcasing at Americana Fest in Nashville.



RACHAEL KILGOUR

Rachael Kilgour is a Canadian-American songwriter and performing artist whose intimate songs and performances have endeared her to listeners and fellow songwriters alike. The award-winning songwriter (2015 NewSong Music, 2017 Kerrville New Folk) releases her fourth album, written in memory of her late father and produced by Rose Cousins, in autumn of 2023.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



RAHAEL

Rahael creates an immersive and cinematic world that celebrates the intimacy of love. A self-taught guitarist from Vancouver, BC with Ethiopian and Eritrean heritage, her songwriting is inspired by her personal experiences and guided by the ethereal moments love and relationships have to offer.



REBEKAH HAWKER

With roots in church choir harmonies and songwriting prowess built on an art-rock adolescence, it's not so surprising that Rebekah Hawker ultimately found herself at the intersection of country and folk. Hawker embraces the full spectrum of "country,"—from John Prine's lore-spinning to Linda Ronstadt's honeyed vocals, Kacey Musgraves' resilient sheen, and the vulnerability of Edwards. Hawker's latest single "Ticket" is a classic midtempo country song about two things that never go out of style, in any genre: broken hearts and broken dreams. She sings of bastards and radio play, social media and getting ghosted, but flips the script in a canny way, declaring a positive outlook despite the rest: "I'm satisfied with the long shot / I've got a ticket." To have hope is better than the alternative. "You're on your own," she says, "deciding that this thing has worth." In 2020 Rebekah's song 'Catch You' won Folk Music Ontario's Songs from the Heart award and in 2022 she was selected as an official showcasing artist at their annual conference. She was recently selected as a participant in the 2023 RBC x Launchpad Music Entrepreneurship Program and released her latest single "Ticket" with the support of FACTOR and Ontario Arts Council in September 2023.



REDFOX

Winner of Emerging Artist of the Year at the 2023 Canadian Folk Music Awards, RedFox is coming onto the scene with their debut full length album 'Stranger Love'. Blending sounds from their acoustic roots background with electric indie these five foxies will have you dancing one minute and holding your loved ones the next. RedFox has opened for such acts as Tom Cochrane and George Thorogood, as well as participated in major music festivals throughout Canada such as Mariposa, Summerfolk, and Living Roots.



RONJA MALTZAHN

The singer and cellist Ronja weaves a tapestry of tales through songs, inviting the listener to embark on a journey across the globe with her band family of multi instrumentalists. The symphonic Folkpop project has been awarded with the Panikpreis 2021 as well as the HSS-Songwriterprize 2022.



RORY TAILLON

Ottawa-based singer/songwriter Rory Taillon is a road warrior, touring across the country and back again. He has the soul of the East coast but the sound of the West in his songs with a voice to match the majesty of the Rockies. Because Rory Taillon is not just an entertainer, he is a performer. It's just that simple, when Rory Taillon sings everything stops and when it starts again it's all changed. It's just that simple, like folk.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



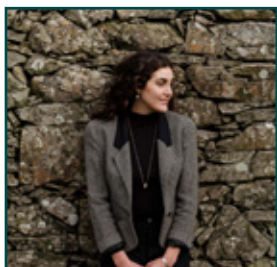
RUBE & RAKE

Rube & Rake engage audiences with a mixture of stories, intricate guitar work, and rich vocal harmonies. After working together for the past 6 years out of St. John's, NL, Josh Sandu and Andrew Laite have fused an intimate musical connection that comes across in every new song and performance. ECMA 2022 Songwriter of the Year and 2020 Music NL Folk/Roots Artist of the Year award winners, Rube & Rake's music is an exercise in creating something beyond the sum of their parts.



SARAH HILTZ

Sarah Hiltz is a contemporary folk artist whose upcoming project *Exit Interview* (2024) examines how we navigate seasons of uncertainty in our lives. It stems from Hiltz's research on liminality and winter farming practices in Alberta and Ontario. The songs explore these themes lyrically and through her ensemble's musical arrangements.



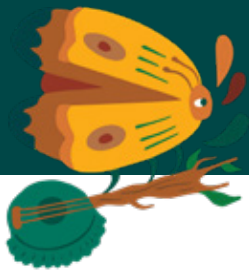
SARAH JANE SCOUTEN

Four-time Canadian Folk Music Award nominee, Sarah Jane Scouten is a songwriter of rare quality, combining sounds of early country music, ballad singing, folk rock and 60's soul. It's modern indie Americana that knows exactly where it comes from, with confidence and sophistication only bought by time. Surrounding herself with top-notch musicians, the live show is as dynamic as her four (soon to be five) albums: at any moment making feet move or eliciting laughter or tears. She is dry, funny, irreverent yet generous. She has a job to do and she takes it very seriously: to entertain, to inspire and to be cathartic. An ever expanding palette and a warbling iconic country voice 'honed over many a campfire' brings a freshness to her brand of ambient indie Americana. It's as relevant today as it is rooted in the music of her forebears.



SEAN PINCHIN

Juno Nominated and Internationally Recognized Singer/ Songwriter/ Slide Guitarist Sean Pinchin has been a steady presence on the Festival circuit for nearly 2 decades. Since his first performance in 2005 while opening for Sawyer Brown as Guitarist / 2nd Vocalist in a Gretchen Wilson Tribute band, Sean had begun a regular pre - pandemic life on the road performing roughly 200 shows a year all through North America. Recording original music and creating beautifully constructed interpretations of classic Blues and Roots music since 2007, he received a (2014) Maple Blues Nomination for Best New Artist, his 2016 Release "Monkey Brain" received the Juno Nomination for Best Blues Album of the Year (2017) and he was recognized by the Toronto Blues Society as Semi Finalist for the Road to Memphis Challenge (2019). In (2020) Sean recorded guitar for the "Lily Pad Bop" by Splash'N Boots featuring Jill Barber which won the Juno Award for Best Children's Album. During his almost 20-year career Sean has opened for Tinsley Ellis, Jeff Lang, Mel Brown, Steve Strongman, Monkey Junk, Phillip Sayce, and Kim Churchill. And as a member of the Dione Taylor Band since (2014) Sean has shared the stage with such Internationally recognized acts as War and Treaty, Colin James, Birds of Chicago, Serena Ryder, MCrary Sisters, Harry Manx, Blind Boy Paxton, Harrison Kennedy, Carl, Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar and Guy Davis.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



SELCI

Calgary based singer-producer Selci bridges the iconoclastic electronics of chamber pop with scintillating dance music to shape her sonic vision. While trained in opera, contemporary and classical musical styles, Selci uses ambience and rhythm to compose sounds that exist on the fringes of pop music. Her upcoming double album *Fallen Woman* was co-produced and mixed by grammy award winning engineers Sylvia Massy and Mark Lawson. The record is a celebration of modern relationships and an ode to fallen women of the past. Each track showcases Selci's dynamic vocal range and her broad palette as a producer. Since 2018, Selci has released a string of Ep's and singles while touring Canada multiple times. Her music has received praise from CBC, EARMILK, Exclaim!, The Sunday Times, Bristol In Stereo, Indie 88, Refinery 29 and many more. Her *A Soft Place* EP charted nationally on college radio and was ranked the #1 electronic album on Calgary's CJSW in 2020. Selci is releasing her debut full length album *Fallen Woman*.



SENAYA

Senaya lights up the stage, fiercely and magnificently free. The author, composer, performer and guitarist, who received a Canada Council grant for the Arts, combines African and Caribbean rhythms, jazz, funk, blues, folk, R&B and even negro spirituals in her *SoûlKreôl*. The singer-songwriter call her music *soûlkreôl*. Upon hearing Senaya, you travel from blues to folk by way of funk, jazz, zouk, gwoka and biguine to reach Afrobeat and makossa sounds, in French, English, Wolof and Creole. Senaya is a multidisciplinary artist ? a lyricist, composer, singer, poet, guitarist, producer and entrepreneur. Self-taught from the start, she has asserted her unique, powerful style. Born in Dakar to a Senegalese father and a Guadeloupean mother, Senaya has lived in both lands. These multicultural origins have shaped her art: a firmly rooted style of music. If Black music were a tree, Senaya's music would not be missing any roots. In 2003 and 2004, she was named winner of the year at the Granby International Song Festival and received the Coup de coeur award at the Vues sur la relève festival. In 2005, she co-produced her first album, *Garde la tête haute*, which earned her a Juno. With her sister, she set up her own production company to serve her yearnings as an independent artist. Her warm, haunting voice and incredible stage charisma enhance an extraordinary musical style that warms the soul and celebrates life. In February 2023, as part of Black History Month, Senaya presented her long-awaited second album to her public under the label *Disques Nuits d'Afrique*.



SHANNA IN A DRESS

There's no one quite like Shanna in a Dress. This quirky millennial who sucks at dating is known for her bold, authentic humor and candor and takes audiences on an emotional journey from laughter to tears and everything in between. She is an award-winning songwriter, internationally touring rising star who feels like she could be your best friend.

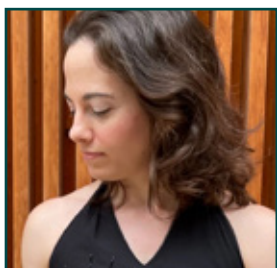


2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



SHAUIT

Nominated twice as indigenous artist of the year for the prestigious ADISQ awards gala, Shauit sings about the complexity and beauty of the Innu nation. Most of the time in Innu, but sometimes in French, Shauit brings a music that is as festive and unifying as it is introspective and hypnotizing. After a multiple award-winning album that has taken him to more than 7 different countries and to perform some 400 shows, locally, nationally and internationally, Shauit continues his artistic journey and continues to sail towards new artistic oceans with his new album NATUKUN. NATUKUN means “remedy” in Innu. Both in love with Quebec music and also deeply rooted in his native Innu culture, Shauit is preparing a strong and beautiful comeback for his next opus. Accompanied by more traditional instrumentation with, among other things, violin, guitars, and other more classically Quebec sounds, Shauit offers a veritable musical fresco that will echo Quebec territories and their inhabitants, in all their richness and diversity.



SHAWNA CASPI

Singer-songwriter Shawna Caspi creates an inviting space for authentic human connection with her powerful voice and poetic lyrics paired with intricate and compelling fingerstyle guitar accompaniment. Her songs resonate with stories that are relatable, but told in new and unexpected ways.



SOPHIE LUKACS

Hailing from Montreal by way of Budapest, Sophie Lukacs is a kora player and singer-songwriter. Sophie’s music is rooted in love and vulnerability, drawing inspiration from her training in western classical violin, seven years of study in Mali with kora virtuoso Toumani Diabaté, and her roots in Hungarian folk music. Her debut album will be released in April 2023, and features 2 tracks with the legendary Habib Koité.



STEÁFÁN & SASKIA

Saskia from the UK, & Steáfán from Ireland, moved to Canada in 2007 with 3 children and over 800 instruments! After 22 years of playing together, and many sessions under their belt for other people, Steáfán & Saskia released their first duo album called “Moorchild”. Between them, Saskia & Steáfán have played with thousands of artists both live and recorded, including Uriah Heep, Loreena Mckennit, Bjork, Depeche Mode, The Band of Hope (with Martin Carthy and Dave Swarbrick), SinÉ, The Afro-Celt Sound System, Oliver Schroer, David Newland (in his project Northbound Passage), and most recently Sultans of String, George Crotty, Shannon Linton and MEDUSA. They have been session musicians on TV shows which include Relic Hunter, Earth Final Conflict, Murdoch Mysteries, Copper, Cabinet of Curiosities (Del Torro) and Friends (the one with Ross’s Wedding). Together they worked on developing the Celtic music for the hit Broadway show “Come from Away”.



STEPH LA ROCHELLE

Breathtaking vocals, heart warming guitar playing, Steph La Rochelle is making her mark. A CCMA Discovery finalist and CCMA award nominated. Most recently starred in Toronto, National Tour, and appeared in UK WestEnd productions of Broadway hit, DearEvanHansen where she collaborated with Alex Lacamoire at The Bluebird in Nashville. An old soul with a gift to share, this songstress will always leave a captivating performance. Factor-funded EP, Wildflower, available now.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



SUZIE VINNICK

A Saskatoon native transplanted to the Niagara Region of Ontario, Canada, Suzie Vinnick is the proud owner of a gorgeous voice, impressive guitar and bass chops and an engagingly candid performance style. Suzie has won 11 Maple Blues Awards, 1 Canadian Folk Music Award and is a 3X Juno Nominee. She has also twice won the International Songwriting Competition: Blues Category. She has just released her seventh solo album entitled 'Fall Back Home'.



T. BUCKLEY

Award-winning Canadian songwriter T. Buckley (T is for Tim not related to the late Tim Buckley) looks through the lens of life with his second solo album, *Frame By Frame*, out on November 5, via Fallen Tree Records. Buckley delivers another trademark smooth and soulful vocal performance that makes him one of western Canada's most talked-about artists. The recording sessions were fused in the winter of 2020 at the National Music Centre in Calgary, Alberta, with notable producer Jeff Kynoch and a core group of players: Jesse Dollimont on mandolin, guitar and backing vocals; Mitch Jay on stringed things; Steve Fletcher on keys and organs; Dan Stadnicki on drums; and Keith Rempel on bass. Kynoch's open-minded sonic approach makes for an excellent pairing with Buckley's spirit of creatively pushing the envelope.



TAMAR ILANA AND VENTANAS

Ventanas is a Toronto-based band fronted by vocalist and dancer Tamar Ilana (Jewish-Indigenous) and featuring the city's finest musicians. Drawing inspiration from legendary artists like Silk Road Ensemble, Paco de Lucía, and Yasmin Levy, they reimagine Mediterranean melodies and flamenco grooves, and mix contemporary interpretations of ancient ballads with original compositions.



TARA MACLEAN

Canadian singer/songwriter Tara MacLean has been an internationally renowned and award-winning recording and touring artist for over 25 years. She released her first album with the Nettwerk Music Group in 1996 and Sony Music Publishing Canada. Since then, she has been signed to Capitol Records as a solo artist and to EMI Canada with her JUNO nominated band Shaye. She has written and recorded six solo albums and two Shaye records. Her first book, *Song of the Sparrow*, was released on March 14th, 2023 with Harper Collins Canada, followed by the soundtrack for the book on March 31, 2023.



THE BARREL BOYS

A bluegrass powerhouse featuring rich vocal harmonies, killer picking, and charming stage presence, The Barrel Boys are a unique staple of Canadian roots music. Informed by the deep traditions of bluegrass, country, old-time, and Americana, The Boys have crafted their unmistakable sound into a joyful and deeply soulful musical experience.



2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



THE BOMBADILS

The Bombadils, comprised of folk darlings Luke Fraser and Sarah Frank, offer songs that are emotionally stirring and intimate, framed with intertwining string-band arrangements. Canadian arts journalist Bob Mersereau describes their music as “folk tunes done with musical adventure and sophistication” and Elmore Magazine calls it “an enchanting folk romp.”



THE PAIRS

With soaring harmonies, The Pairs share stories of life's hope, hilarity, and hardship. Their quirky stage presence and unbottled chemistry quickly connect them with their audience. The line between the stage and the crowd becomes blurred as if we've all pulled up a seat around their family's lively kitchen table.



TWIN FLAMES

Critics have tried to label the music of Twin Flames and it isn't an easy task, and really, labels only serve the needs of those who choose to employ them. From the beginning, husband and wife duo Chelsey June, have decided to let their music speak for itself. It's beautiful to see they've got something special going on 4x Canadian Folk Music Award recipients, 3x Native American Music Award Winners, 3x Summer Solstice Indigenous Music Awards Winners.



VINTA

Strings and reeds weave kaleidoscopic grooves and textures in the music of Vinta, four brilliant performers at the cutting edge of Western European traditional music in Canada. Bringing new intensity to old tunes, and growing new tunes from old sources, Vinta is making music that is powerful, profound, and fiercely danceable.



WALEED KUSH AFROJAZZ

The Waleed Kush African Jazz Ensemble takes the improvisational qualities of jazz and the beat of ancient African rhythms to literally move, excite and inspire new and old audiences alike.

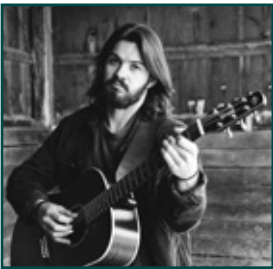


2023 OFFICIAL SHOWCASE ARTISTS



WAPAMA

WAPAMA is a collective of three dedicated musicians living in Toronto, Canada. They take influences from music and cultures throughout the globe and improvise collectively and intensely. They play high energy groove explorations, combining infectious rhythms from around the globe with deep melodies, and universally enjoyed harmonic structures. The results have received a great response from their audiences. Individually, the members of WAPAMA have worked with an extensive and impressive list of artists including Alex Cuba, Josh Groban, Hilario Duran, David Clayton Thomas, D'bi Young, Mgozi Paul, and Zaki Ibrahim.



ZACK ELLIOTT

With thoughtfully composed guitar and an honest voice, Caledon-based folk singer-songwriter Zack Elliott seeks answers to his mind's questions in an effort to connect with listeners who feel isolated. Zack's songs will transport you to a place where you can be at ease and connect with your inner curiousness.

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Connie Kaldor
Celebrating 45 years in Folk Music

Album Release Date: October 20, 2023



KEEP GOING

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Robert Reid,
The Midland Mirror



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MEREDITH MOON
LIVE



MIKE STEVENS
LIVE



LISTEN



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2023 DEVELOPING ARTISTS PARTICIPANTS ARTISTS



FRANCESCA PANETTA

Toronto, Ontario's Francesca Panetta is an old soul who is inspired by artists spanning from Billy Joel to Kodaline. Francesca sparked an interest in music from a young age, evolving to release her alt-pop/folk original music and recently headlining her first music festival. Francesca transitions into a more psychedelic, orchestral jazz sound with the release of her new single, September Weather.



EMMA CAMPBELL

Toronto born singer/songwriter Emma Campbell has spent the majority of her 21 years making music. Emma draws much of her inspiration from artists such as Lizzy McAlpine and Phoebe Bridgers, combining sounds from the Indie, Folk, and Pop genres. Her debut EP, Oh Emma, is out everywhere now!



JESSIE GOSLING

Family, love, and introspection swell in the heart of Jessie Gosling's songs. Hailing from Barrie, Ontario, this singer/songwriter draws inspiration from folk, country, and rock influences. Reminiscent of artists like Linda Perhacs and Adrienne Lenker, Jessie's music combines layers of warm harmonies, bright guitars and dramatically honest lyrics.



A SOFT PLACE TO LAND

A Soft Place to Land is the nascent duo project of singer-songwriters Adina V and Jack Gaughan. Strong writers, performers, and multi-instrumentalists in their own right, together they capture their passion for original acoustic music and the magic that comes from honest, heartfelt songs.



2023 DEVELOPING ARTISTS PARTICIPANTS ARTISTS



VIVIAN FORTE

The rolling fields and quaint atmosphere of rural Ontario, where Vivian Forte roamed through childhood, are reflected in her songs and performance. Known to make audiences cry, her thoughtful lyrics span themes of family, love, and loss, and are paired with a lilting voice and finger-picked guitar.



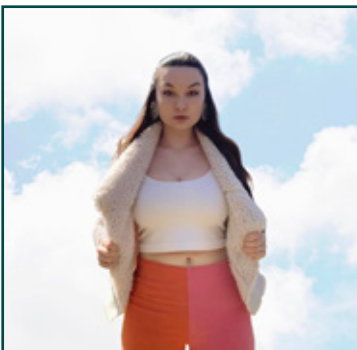
NICHOLAS CAMPBELL

From slick hot-rod rockabilly to crooning honky tonk, Nicholas Campbell is the real deal. Inspired by some of the last century's most iconic country-politan sounds, Campbell's ability as an instrumentalist and vocalist is top tier. Whether fronting his own band or accompanying other artists, Campbell is a must-see.



JESSICA SPURRELL

Life, love, and lament are the introspective themes of songwriter Jessica Spurrell's folk-rock music. Jessica performs regularly with her band in Toronto and is a recipient of the 2021 SOCAN Foundation Young Canadian Songwriters Award. Look out for new original music from Jessica in the spring of 2024.



REBECCA HOPE

Rebecca Hope is a Singer Songwriter and Guitarist from Pembroke, Ontario. She is a winner of the Live Performance Category of the Canadian Songwriting Competition and has been an Artist in Residence for Buffy Sainte Marie and Toronto Metropolitan University. For over seven years, Rebecca has been a performer for Siegel Entertainment Talent Agency. Most recently, she has been selected as a Developing Artist for Folk Music Ontario's Developing Artist Program. Catch Rebecca live at the conference this week!



2023 DEVELOPING ARTISTS PARTICIPANTS ARTISTS



CAMERON SUMMERS

Cameron Summers is an Ontarian songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and producer who blends the sounds of midcentury country music and traditional folk music. He leads a traditional country band in Toronto, however, also performs on the banjo, fiddle, mandolin, steel guitar, dobro, bass, harmonica, plays a whole host of other instruments, and he sings a little, too.



IRISH MILLIE

Irish Millie is a 16-year old fiddle player from Peterborough Ontario. Her first album entitled Thirteen garnered her a 2022 Canadian Folk Music Award nomination in the category of Young Performer of the Year. She was nominated for the same award again this year for her work with her band The Receivers. Millie is honoured to be named Emerging Artist of the Year by the Peterborough Folk Festival! Millie specializes in many genres including East Coast, Bluegrass and Contemporary Trad music. She is currently working on completing her second album which will feature all her own compositions.



2023 DEVELOPING ARTISTS PARTICIPANTS MENTORS



JANICE JO LEE

Janice Jo Lee (she/they) is a queer folk musician based in Tkaronto, Ontario. She is a contemporary folk-roots-jazz singer songwriter, composer-sound designer, spoken word poet, theatre maker, and arts/anti-oppression facilitator. She is interested in using art to build flourishing communities based in justice and joy. Her work explores gender justice, antiracism, workers rights, friendship, community, ancestry and the Earth. They tour solo, with a trio, and with a band.



SARAH JANE SCOUTEN

Four-time Canadian Folk Music Award nominee, Sarah Jane Scouten is a songwriter of rare quality, combining sounds of early country music, ballad singing, folk rock and 60's soul. It's modern indie Americana that knows exactly where it comes from, with confidence and sophistication only bought by time. Surrounding herself with top-notch musicians, the live show is as dynamic as her four (soon to be five) albums: at any moment making feet move or eliciting laughter or tears. She is dry, funny, irreverent yet generous. She has a job to do and she takes it very seriously: to entertain, to inspire and to be cathartic. An ever expanding palette and a warbling iconic country voice ? honed over many a campfire ? brings a freshness to her brand of ambient indie Americana. It's as relevant today as it is rooted in the music of her forebears.



ELISE BOEUR

JUNO nominated fiddler, violinist, and Hardanger fiddle player Elise Boeur brings an unmistakable velvety sound to her strings - working as a chameleonic collaborator in many genres, in duos with her favourite instrumentalists, and leading her acclaimed neo-trad quintet Aerialists. She loves the subtle elasticity of time in Norwegian hardingfele music.



ADAM IREDALE-GRAY

Adam Iredale-Gray is a JUNO nominated fiddler, guitarist, producer, and recording engineer. With a deep affinity for traditional music, and an innovative approach to his current and past projects Aerialists and Fish & Bird, Adam's eclectic musical life reflects his commitment to artistic excellence. He founded the Campbell Bay Music Festival in 2009.



2023 DEVELOPING ARTISTS PARTICIPANTS MENTORS



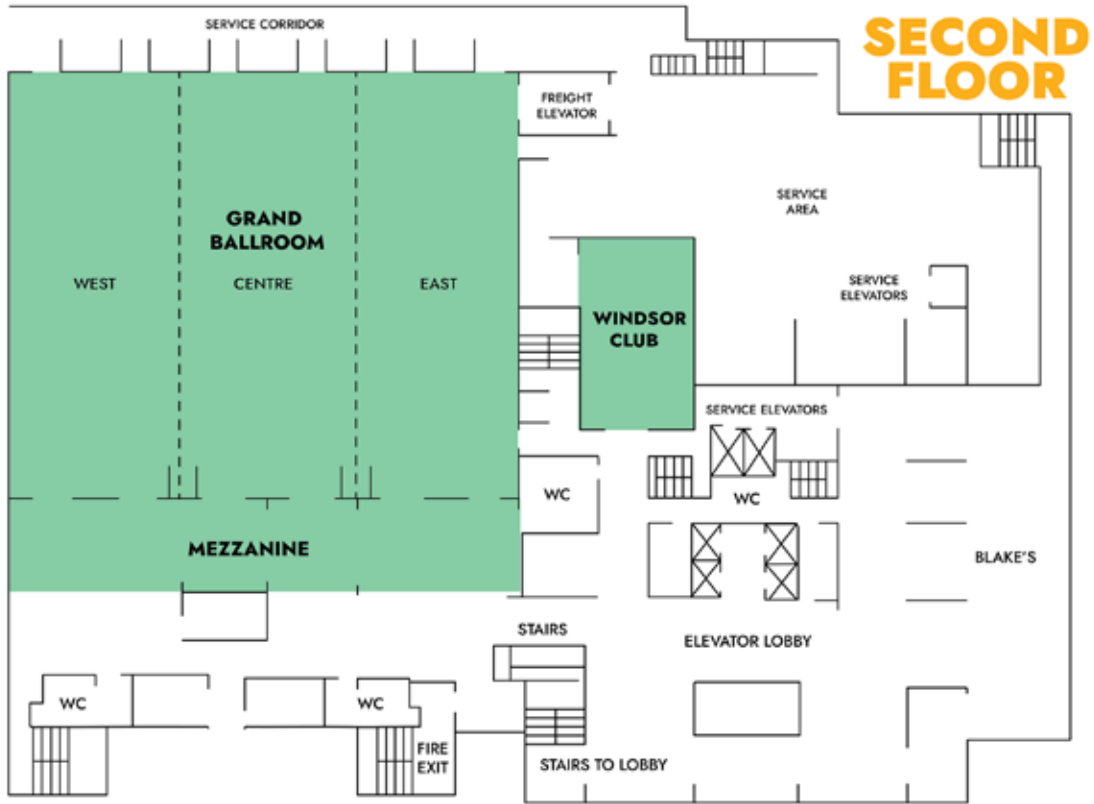
HERI LATIMER

The band Leaf Rapids combines gritty guitar with angelic vocals, bass and drums and the eerie sound of the theremin to create a Canadiana soundscape. They croon about circling vultures, barbershop stabbings and velvet paintings to name a few. Collectively the band boasts Juno Awards, International tours and decent hygiene.



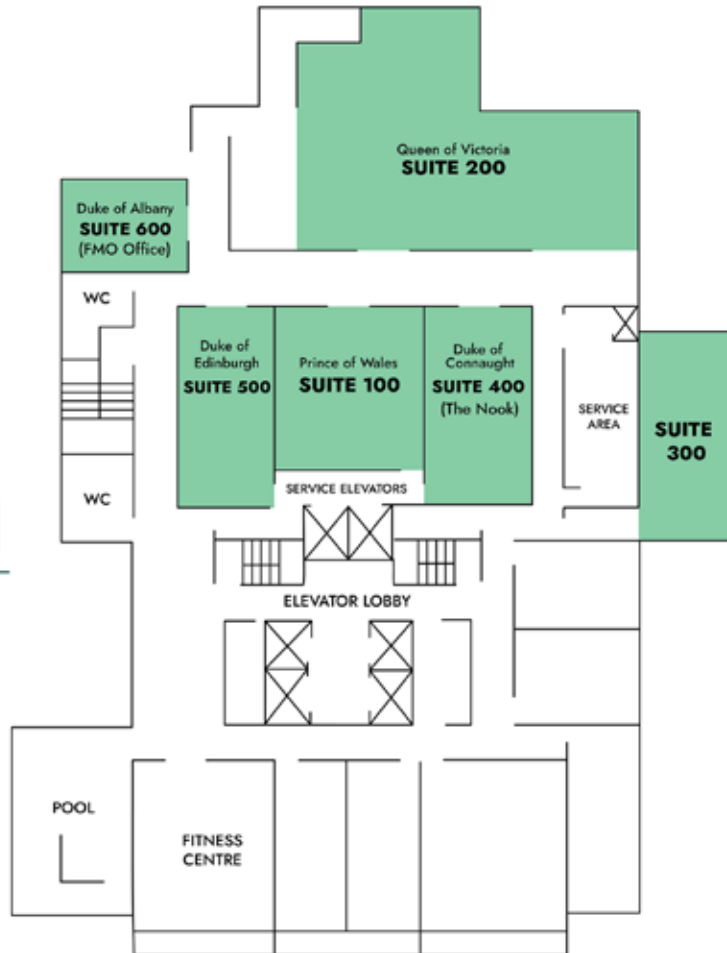
BARBRA LICA

Barbra Lica is a JUNO-nominated singer-songwriter based in Toronto who has headlined on stages around the world. Her 2018 album, *You're Fine*, a cross-genre project combining elements of jazz, folk, and indie pop, has amassed over 5.4 million streams to date on Spotify. She is currently promoting her first ever self-produced EP *Imposter Syndrome*.





**DoubleTree
London Hotel**

Folk Music Ontario
Conference 2023





THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 - SCHEDULE

ROOMS/ VENUE	The Good Foundation Theatre - Fanshawe College	Suite 100	Suite 200	Suite 300	Windsor Club	Grand Ballroom Centre & West	
2:00 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:30 PM							
4:00 PM						Opening Reception	
4:30 PM							
5:00 PM		Show your conference badge at participating restaurants for discounts.				DINNER BREAK	
6:00 PM							
7:00 PM to 10:30 PM	FMO Community Folk Fest from 7:30 Pm to 10:30 PM Doors open at 7:00 PM PRESENTED BY LONDON MUSIC OFFICE UNESCO CITY OF MUSIC	Evening Showcases 7:00 PM Start	Evening Showcases 7:05PM Start	Evening showcases 7:00 PM Start	Evening Showcases 7: 10PM Start	Scan this code to find out what artists are performing in this showcase: 	
10:30 PM to 1:00 AM		Late Night Showcases	Late Night Showcases Presented by Small World Music	Late Night Showcases Presented by MusicOntario	Late Night Showcases		


Folk Music Ontario Conference Schedule - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 - SCHEDULE

ROOMS/ VENUE	Suite 100	Suite 200	Suite 300	Windsor Club	Suite 400 (The Nook)	Wellness Suite	Grand Ballroom Centre & West	Mezzanine	Suite 500 - Day Care	Grand Ballroom East	The Good Foundation Theatre - Fanshawe College	
9:00 AM										<p>FMO Registration/Info Booth 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM</p> <p>INSTRUMENT LOCKUP - Open 10:00 AM to 1:30 AM</p> <p><i>YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR INSTRUMENT BEFORE THE ROOM CLOSES, WE WILL NOT REOPEN THE ROOM AFTER IT CLOSES. NO EXCEPTIONS</i></p>		
9:30 AM												
10:00 AM												
10:30 AM					Folk in Film Fest - Opening Screening of "Songs for the 8th Fire At Massey Hall"	Sober Folks						
11:00 AM	Roundtable: No Music On a Dead Planet	Panel: Meet the ADs										
11:30 AM					Peer Session: Music Educators							
12:00 PM					Panel: Sync & Licensing - Where Does 'Folk' Fit in Film?		Presented by Réseau SPARC Network					
12:30 PM												
1:00 PM	Workshop: Your Guide to Grant Writing	Peer Session: Agents			Peer Session: Black Artists and Music Industry	Authenticity - Creativity and Branding: Rejection as Inspiration						
1:30 PM				Workshop: Folk Tracks - Learn to use Ableton Live					Lil' Folkers Daycare Drop-In			
2:00 PM							FMO Daytime Showcases	Exhibit Hall				
2:30 PM	Peer Session: Navigating the music industry as neurodivergent				Peer Session: Band Leaders							
3:00 PM				Workshop: Film Scoring		Scarcity - Toxic Comparisons: Virtual Joy vs Personal Stress						
3:30 PM												
4:00 PM												
4:30 PM							True North Records Reception & Showcase					
5:00 PM	<p> Show your conference badge at participating restaurants for discounts.</p>											
6:00 PM	<p>DINNER BREAK</p>											
7:00 PM to 10:30 PM	Evening Showcases 7:00 PM Start	Evening Showcases 7:05PM Start	7:00 PM Start	Evening Showcases 7:10PM Start	<p> Scan this code to find out what artists are performing in this showcase:</p>						FMO Community Folk Fest from 7:30 PM to 10:30 PM Doors open at 7:00 PM PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SUNFEST AND THE LONDON MUSIC	
10:30 PM to 1:00 AM	Late Night Showcases Presented by BEAT Network 10:20 PM to 11:20 PM Presented by Haliburton Folk Society 11:30 PM to 1:00 AM	Late Night Showcases Presented by MusicOntario	Late Night Showcases Presented by Small World Music	Evening Showcases Late Night Showcases							DINNER BREAK	

Folk Music Ontario Conference Schedule - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 - SCHEDULE

ROOMS/ VENUE	Suite 100	Suite 200	Suite 300	Windsor Club	Suite 400 (The Nook)	Wellness Suite	Prime Minister's Suite - 2216	Grand Ballroom Centre & West	Mezzanine	Suite 500 Day Care	Grand Ballroom East	The Good Foundation Theatre - Fanshawe College
9:00 AM												
9:30 AM												
10:00 AM					Folk in Film Fest - Short Documentary & Film "Canadian Music Climate Summit" "Long Road To Freedom" "Wanderlust" "Unsung Heroes with Ian Tamblyn"							
10:30 AM						Sober Folks						
11:00 AM		Panel: How To Make a Living as an Artist Without Destroying the World (and Yourself)			Peer Session: Concert Presenters							
11:30 AM					Peer Session: House Concert Presenters							
12:00 PM												
12:30 PM					Roundtable: Unlocking Workforce Potential: Recruitment, Retention, Succession							
1:00 PM					Folk in Film Fest - Live Performance Video							
1:30 PM		Panel: Booking Folks, Booking Folk			Table Ronde des artistes et de l' industrie de la musique francophone							
2:00 PM					Official Music Video Selections							
2:30 PM	Developing Artist Program Showcase					Stress Tolerance - Numbing vs Relaxing: What's the Difference						
3:00 PM		Panel: Know Your Rights, Find Your Royalties!										
3:30 PM					Peer Session: Indigenous Artists & Music Industry							
4:00 PM												
4:30 PM												
5:00 PM	 Show your conference badge at participating restaurants for discounts.											
6:00 PM	DINNER BREAK											DINNER BREAK
7:00 PM to 10:30 PM	Evening Showcases 7:00 PM Start	Evening Showcases 7:05PM Start	Evening Showcases 7:00PM Start	Evening Showcases 7:10PM Start								
10:30 PM to 1:00 AM	Late Night Showcases Presented by Haliburton Folk Society 10:15PM to 11:40PM	Late Night Showcases Presented by MusicOntario	Late Night Showcases Presented by Small World Music	Late Night Showcases								

Folk Music Ontario Conference Schedule - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 - SCHEDULE

ROOMS/ VENUE	Aeolian Hall	Suite 300	Mezzanine	Grand Ballroom East
9:00 AM				<p>"FMO Registration/Info Booth 9: 00 AM to 1:00 PM</p> <p>INSTRUMENT LOCKUP - Open 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM <i>YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR INSTRUMENT BEFORE THE ROOM CLOSSES, WE WILL NOT REOPEN THE ROOM AFTER IT CLOSSES. NO EXCEPTIONS</i></p>
9:30 AM				
10:00 AM			Sunday Sing-Along	
10:30 AM				
11:00 AM		SOCAN Songwriting Masterclass		
11:30 AM				
12:00 PM				
12:30 PM	Shuttle Buses Departing for Aeolian Hall from the DoubleTree			
1:00 PM	Red Carpet Reception			
1:30 PM				
2:00 PM	Ontario Folk Music Awards Show			
2:30 PM				
3:00 PM				
3:30 PM				
4:00 PM				
4:30 PM				
5:00 PM	Folk Bus Departing from DoubleTree Hotel at 5:00PM sharp!			

Folk Music Ontario Conference Schedule - SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SEAN PINCHIN

LIVE SHOWCASE

PRESENTED BY

The Toronto Blues Society

SAT. OCTOBER 14TH | THE BALLROOM | 3:40 PM

@SEANPINCHIN | SEANPINCHIN.CA



Thursday, October 12
Late Night Showcase

1 am, Room 100

KEN DUNN

"Sneaks into your feet, heart, and soul" - No Depression Magazine

"Soulful and poignant, thought-provoking, and just plain fun" - Windsor Folk, Ontario

"Folk artistry in its purest form" - Backstage L.A., Los Angeles

kendunnmusic.com

CMRRA

CONGRATULATES THIS YEAR'S NOMINEES FOR

SONG OF THE YEAR



BARBRA LICA
"THE GHOST OF ME"



JULIAN TAYLOR
"SEEDS"



MADISON VIOLET
"SWEET DESPERADO"



MICHAEL DARCY & THE ATLANTIC TRAMPS
"THE BALLAD OF UNCLE FRANK"



EMILY SCHULTZ
"WHAT DO I KNOW"

2023 PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY

NO MUSIC ON A DEAD PLANET

Friday October 13th

11:00am - 12:00pm

SUITE 200

2023 will be known as the climate tipping point year. In March 2023, the IPCC (United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) sixth assessment report outlined that Climate change isn't a problem for the future but a crisis happening right now, including extreme weather events already negatively affecting communities and ecosystems worldwide. The need for Immediate Ambitious Climate Leadership from every corner of the globe and from every industry and sector is urgently needed. Musicians have a unique ability to reach people's hearts and inspire change. This panel will look at the role of music in addressing the climate emergency from making art to practical solutions around touring and merch.

MEET THE ADS

Friday October 13th

11:00am - 12:00pm

SUITE 300

Have you been wondering what it takes to get hired to play some festivals? Or are they even reading your brilliant and funny bio? Or just how many submissions festivals get and do they even book anyone from those unsolicited submissions anyways? Come meet some A.D's from some large well-known and smaller lesser-known festivals and maybe they'll answer some of these mysterious questions of the festival universe.

MUSIC EDUCATORS PEER SESSION

Friday October 13th

11:30am - 12:30pm

THE NOOK

A gathering of music educators, from those that teach in classrooms, camps, workshops, private lessons, universities, masterclasses, and all the other many settings in which musicians influence and change the worlds of those around them. This is a place to share your stories, insights, challenges, and successes from the educator's perspective.

WHERE DOES 'FOLK' FIT IN FILM?

Friday October 13th

12:00pm - 1:00pm

WINDSOR CLUB

Does Folk music get placed or 'synced' in Film and Television programming? Join our panel of sync experts, discussing the process of getting your music licensed; how to set up your catalogue for success, and the who, where, when, and how to pitch to a music supervisor!

YOUR GUIDE TO GRANT WRITING

Friday October 13th

1:00pm - 2:00pm

SUITE 200

We've put together a crackerjack group of grant-writers and grant officers, to discuss best practices, some do's and don'ts, and offer personalized advice for folks that need a guide through the many grant processes and portals. Bring your questions, a laptop, or some printed copy, if you'd like personalized feedback from the experts!

BLACK ARTISTS AND MUSIC INDUSTRY PEER SESSION

Friday October 13th

1:00pm - 2:00pm

PRIME MINISTER'S SUITE - ROOM 2216

A continuation of the conversation started at the 2022 Creating New Opportunities for Black Folk Artists session, This peer discussion is a space for Black artists and music industry professionals to gather and share some of the challenges and successes of working in folk markets in Canada and abroad. This will be a peer-led discussion, with the aim to support one another as we navigate our lives in the music industry.

FOLK TRACKS: LEARN TO USE ABLETON LIVE

Friday October 13th

1:30pm - 2:30pm

WINDSOR CLUB

From film composition to live performances, folk musicians are increasingly incorporating "tracks" and technology like Ableton into their craft. This session will cover the basics of how to use Ableton Live. Ableton Live is a "fast, fluid and flexible software for music creation and performance. It comes with effects, instruments, sounds and all kinds of creative features". This is a hands-on workshop, so we recommend signing up for a free trial of Ableton Live prior to the event: www.ableton.com/en/trial

2023 PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY

NAVIGATING THE MUSIC INDUSTRY AS NEURODIVERGENT

Friday October 13th
2:30pm - 3:30pm
SUITE 200

This peer session is a space for neurodivergent folks to gather and share some challenges, tips, and tools, as we navigate our lives in the music industry. This will be a casual discussion, in a supportive environment. Feel free to bring your own stims, or stims to share!

BANDLEADER HACKS

Friday October 13th
2:30pm - 3:30pm
THE NOOK

A candid and safe conversation about the challenges and questions that affect bandleaders and how we can move more smoothly through our tours, including tour hacks, per diem or not per diem, musician salaries and how to come home with money after paying everybody else.

FILM SCORING

Friday October 13th
3:00 - 4:00pm
WINDSOR CLUB

Join us for a workshop on how to score music for film!

SATURDAY

HOW TO MAKE A LIVING AS AN ARTIST WITHOUT DESTROYING THE WORLD (OR YOURSELF)

Saturday October 14th
11:00am - 12:00pm
SUITE 200

Physical and social changes to our environment influence the work that artists create and the world where they transmit it. Our panelists will discuss the many facets of our surroundings that impact each of us: our natural environment, elections, social movements, financial viability, and personal health and self-care, in a frank and personal discussion of their experiences navigating eco-anxiety, and sustainability within their lives and their respective music careers.

CONCERT PRESENTERS ROUNDTABLE

Saturday October 14th
11:00am - 12:00pm
SUITE 300

This session is for small/medium/large concert presenters to discuss issues in a friendly roundtable format

HOUSE CONCERT PRESENTERS ROUNDTABLE

Saturday October 14th
11:00am - 12:00pm
THE NOOK

This session is for house concert presenters to discuss issues in a friendly roundtable format

MUSIC MANAGERS MEETUP

Saturday October 14th
11:00am - 12:00pm

THE PRIME MINISTER'S SUITE - ROOM 2216, 22ND FLOOR

This session is to discuss issues and relevant topics with your fellow Music Managers. Presented by Music Managers Forum

UNLOCKING WORKFORCE POTENTIAL: RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, SUCCESSION

Saturday October 14th
12:00pm - 1:00pm
SUITE 300

This conversation will dive into one of the most talked about topics in our industry: labour shortages. Whether it is around staff, contractors or volunteers, this discussion will focus on the recruitment, retention, and succession plans needed to ensure a more sustainable live music sector. Presented in collaboration with Canadian Live Music Association. This project is funded in part by FACTOR, the Government of Canada and Canada's private radio broadcasters. It is also made possible with the support of Ontario Creates.

2023 PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

SATURDAY

TABLE RONDE DES ARTISTES ET DE L'INDUSTRIE DE LA MUSIQUE FRANCOPHONE

Saturday October 14th
12:30pm - 1:30pm

THE NOOK

Cette session de pairs adresse la réalité des francophones œuvrant tant du côté "français" qu' "anglais" de la scène musicale canadienne. Il s'agit d'une table ronde informelle permettant de faciliter la discussion et de créer un espace de soutien mutuel, de solidarité, de prise de conscience des défis et de partage des succès, dans l'optique de nous aider à mieux naviguer dans le domaine de la musique.

BOOKING FOLKS, BOOKING FOLK

Saturday October 14th
1:00pm - 2:00pm

SUITE 200

Our panel of folks that book and folks that get booked, will guide you through the do's, don'ts, and best practices of the booking process, from first pitch, through to post-gig bliss.

INDIGENOUS ARTISTS & MUSIC INDUSTRY PEER SESSION

Saturday October 14th
2:00pm - 3:00pm

THE NOOK

An Indigenous, peer-led session, for folks to share challenges and successes on topics like collaboration, engaging effectively with buyers and industry workers, encouraging and supporting one another, funding opportunities, and incorporating our Indigenous perspectives and culture into both the creative and business side of our art.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS, FIND YOUR ROYALTIES!

Saturday October 14th
2:30pm - 3:30pm

SUITE 200

You gotta fight for your rights... to royalties! This panel of experts will help you navigate the world of Performers' Rights Organizations (PROs) and other places your IP and residuals may be hiding, to help you claim your piece of it!

LATIN(X) ARTISTS AND MUSIC INDUSTRY PEER SESSION

Saturday October 14th
3:30pm - 4:30pm

THE NOOK

E Bum! De la música en español en Canadá Los creadores de música latines están haciendo cada vez más ruido. Poco a poco creciendo como escena. Ya no solamente creciendo en Toronto, Montreal y Vancouver. La comunidad latina es la demográfica que crece mas rápido en Alberta y creciendo en Manitoba. Saskatchewan y ciudades pequeñas en Ontario cada ves más rápido. Pero, que nos pueden enseñar los latines con mas experiencia en la industria? Como nos pueden preparar? Puede la música de nuestra diáspora, en un lenguaje extranjero tener impacto? Deberías crear dentro del "sonido canadiense" o arriesgarte? Y lo mas importante, como reconciliar el folk y el folklore de las voces latinas?

ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' PEER SESSION

Sunday October 15th
11:00am - 12:00pm

WINDSOR CLUB

This is a gathering of Artistic Directors and buyers to discuss artists they have seen during the 2023 FMO Conference and collaborate on ways to facilitate bookings for the 2024-25 seasons

SOCAN SONGWRITING MASTERCLASS

Sunday October 15th
11:00am - 12:00pm

SUITE 300

SOCAN presents JUNO-nominee AHI, in conversation with Houtan Hodania, SOCAN Creative Executive for a special songwriting MasterClass. Join us for an interactive workshop at the 2023 Folk Music Ontario Conference where AHI will share insights on co-writing, song structure, exploring other genres, finding inspiration, and more. Whether you're an aspiring songwriter or an industry professional, this MasterClass offers an exclusive insider look at the craft of songwriting and creating music with impact.

FOLK IN FILM FEST SCHEDULE

OPENING SCREENING

10am - 11:30am

Friday, October 13

**WINDSOR CLUB, 2ND FLOOR,
DOUBLE TREE HOTEL**

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson
"I Pity The Country"

Willie Dunn
"The Ballad of Crowfoot"

**Songs for the 8th Fire At
Massey Hall**

Directed by Adrian Vieni

Filmed just as people were permitted to gather in small groups again, this film documents artists of Ishkōdé Records meeting in-person for the first time where they introduce themselves, connect and discuss their ambitions, and perform for each other in the round, on stage in historic Massey Hall.

Toronto, Ontario, 2022
50 minutes, 08 seconds

SHORT DOCUMENTARY & FILM

10am - 11:30am

Saturday, October 14

**WINDSOR CLUB, 2ND FLOOR,
DOUBLE TREE HOTEL**

Canadian Music Climate Summit
Directed by Brittany Farhat

This short documentary shows clips from the first ever Canadian Music Climate Summit.

Toronto, Ontario, 2023
10 minutes, 43 seconds

Long Road To Freedom

Directed by Cameron Walker

Original music, dance, and spoken word narrate the struggles that racialized people face through times of isolation and hardship, emerging to a world made better by difficult choices.

Kleinberg, ON and Guelph, ON, 2022
5 minutes, 33 seconds

Wanderlust

Directed by Mark Lewis & Thomas Dibbs

Canadian songwriter Sarah Jane Scouten explores the parallels of working as a musician and a medical herbalist in the small village of Moniaive, Scotland where she lives.

Moniaive, Scotland, 2023
10 minutes

Unsung Heroes with Ian Tamblyn

Directed by Adam Russo

Conversation about career path and trajectory including original music.

Burritt's Rapids ON,
Chelsea QC, 2023

20 minutes

**Followed by a Q&A with
filmmakers.
Refreshments provided.**

LIVE PERFORMANCE VIDEO

12pm-1pm

Saturday, October 14

**WINDSOR CLUB, 2ND FLOOR,
DOUBLETREE HOTEL**

Jesse Corrigan
"Come and Sit a Little Closer"
Directed by Tim O'Reilly

Vinta
"High Park"
Directed by Blake Hannahson

The Uncommon Folk Collective
"Let It Fall" (from *Ursa: a Folk Musical*)
Directed by Margot Greve.

Camie
"Claudia"
Directed by John Butler

The Bombadils
"Tell Me I'm Not Dreaming"
directed by Sarah Frank and Luke Fraser (The Bombadils)

Logan Staats
"Warrior"
Directed by Tim O'Reilly

Julianna Riolino
"Come All Ye/Hark"
Directed by Colin Medley

Odd Songs Episodes 1 - 5:
Featuring Oddeline, Gabriel Comba, Alexis Castrogiovanni, Zack Elliott, Mars Aspen
Directed by Sounds Odd Records.

**Followed by a Q&A with
filmmakers.**

FOLK IN FILM FEST SCHEDULE

OFFICIAL 2022 MUSIC VIDEO SELECTIONS

1pm-2pm

Saturday, October 14

**WINDSOR CLUB, 2ND FLOOR,
DOUBLETREE HOTEL**

Ronja Maltzahn

"Like A Wolf"

Directed by Jan Heußner

Abigail Lapell

"Pines"

Directed by Tatiana Vaca

Mama's Broke

"Narrow Line"

Animation by Arash Akhgari

Kate Weekes

"Time By The Moon"

Directed by Stephen Fuller

Jojo Worthington

"Birthday"

Directed by Cam Veich, Black Lake

King Cardiac

"You Got It Bad"

Directed by Gabriel DeSantis

Emma Worley

"Gemini"

Directed by Nora Rosenthal

Mia Kelly and Nick Loyer

"Hold On To"

Directed by Randy Kelly

Kyle McKearney

"River Rain"

Directed by Aaron Bernakevitch

Dayna Manning

"King Of The Background"

Directed by Kris Von Kleist

Kaeley Jade

"Poltergeist"

Directed by Emily Anne Corcoran

Sarah Hiltz

"May I Rage, May I Love"

Directed by Sandi Barrett

**Followed by a Q&A with
filmmakers.**

FULL LENGTH FEATURE

2:30pm - 4pm

Saturday, October 14

**WINDSOR CLUB, 2ND FLOOR,
DOUBLE TREE HOTEL**

Leilani's Fortune

Directed by Loveleen Kaur

Leilani's Fortune is an intimate journey that follows the blossoming career of queer, Ethiopian-Eritrean artist Witch Prophet. After a decade of struggling as an independent artist, she is finally getting the validation and support she needs to create her album of prophecies. Canada boasts some of the biggest names in music, including Celine Dion, Justin Bieber, Michael Bublé, and Drake. With her hypnotic harmonies and genre bending sound, she is poised to shape the next era of global Canadian artists.

Filmed in: Toronto, ON, Field, ON,
Caledon, ON, 2023

1 hour and 19 minutes

