

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / PLEASE RETAIN FOR LISTINGS

TORONTO SET TO HOST CANADIAN FOLK MUSIC AWARDS DECEMBER 2- 4

- WEEKEND EVENT INCLUDES NOMINEE SHOWCASES, WORKSHOPS AND MORE!
- SCREENING OF THE **WORLD PREMIERE OF A WALK IN MY DREAM**
- SUNDAY NIGHT AWARDS GALA FEATURING SOME OF CANADA'S FINEST IN FOLK
- **TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**



TORONTO – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011 – THE SEVENTH ANNUAL CANADIAN FOLK MUSIC AWARDS (CFMAs) are gearing up for what promises to be a highly entertaining weekend event. This year Toronto plays host to a whirlwind of activities including a debut screening of TV personality **Jonathan Torrens'** film **A WALK IN MY DREAM** on Friday, December 2 at the TIFF Bell Lightbox. Intimate listening venue Hugh's Room will host a showcase event with a selection of this year's nominees, and folks will also be able to engage in up-close-and-personal workshops on Sunday, Dec 4, at Victoria College, Alumni Hall.

The gala awards show will be held on **Sunday, December 4** at the Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles St. West. Performers include the COMMON THREAD COMMUNITY CHORUS, LOREENA MCKENNITT, JIM BYRNES, ROSE COUSINS, SOUL INFLUENCE and DE TEMPS ANTAN. **Roots Music Canada** will once again broadcast the CFMAs live at www.rootsmusic.ca, beginning at 7:00 pm CST / 8:00 pm EST for those who cannot attend. For more information and full list of the 2011 nominees, please visit www.folkawards.ca

Please see below for complete details on locations and ticket prices for all events.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE...

THE WORLD PREMIERE OF A WALK IN MY DREAM

Following the life-changing events of harmonica great Mike Stevens

Friday, December 2 @ 8:00 pm

TIFF Bell Lightbox, 350 King. St. West, Toronto, ON **Cinema 3**

TICKETS: \$20 available at the TIFF box office www.tytix.tiff.net. A full 50% of the ticket price will be a donation to ArtsCan Circle

NOMINEE SHOWCASE

Featuring a variety of 2011 CFMA Nominees

Saturday, December 3 @ 8:30 pm

Hugh's Room, 2261 Dundas St. W. Toronto, ON

TICKETS: \$19.50 Adv / \$21.50 Door (includes HST)

For dinner reservations or concert tickets please call 416 531-6604 or email info@hughsroom.com

IMPORTANT NOTE: Roots Music Canada will broadcast this event live from Hugh's Room, streamed on the Rootsmusic.ca website, hosted by David Newland, starting at **8:15 PM EST**.

WORKSHOP - "Good Songs for Bad Times"

Featuring: Host Candace Shaw (Peterborough Folk Festival), evalyn parry, Dave Gunning and Melisande

Sunday, December 4 @ 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Alumni Hall @ Victoria College, 91 Charles St West, Toronto, ON

TICKETS: Workshops only \$15.00 @ 416-978-8849 or online at <http://uofttix.ca>

WORKSHOP - "Mad for Trad"

Featuring: Hosts Eleanor and Warren Robinson (Goderich Celtic Roots Festival), Shane Cook, Jean Hewson & Christina Smith, Kristina and Quinn Bachand

Sunday, December 4 @ 2:15 - 3:15 pm

Alumni Hall @ Victoria College, 91 Charles St West, Toronto, ON

TICKETS: Workshops only \$15.00 @ 416-978-8849 or online at <http://uofttix.ca>

CFMA GALA AWARDS SHOW

Sunday, December 4 @ 8:00 pm

Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles Street West, Toronto, ON

TICKETS: Gala & reception \$40.00 | Gala, reception & afternoon workshops \$50.00 | Workshops only \$15.00.

Tickets available now : UofTtix Box Office, 416-978-8849 or online at <http://uofttix.ca>

THE WORLD PREMIERE OF A WALK IN MY DREAM

The CFMAs, along with TD Bank and The Twelfth Fret are thrilled to present the world premiere of TV personality **Jonathan Torrens'** film **"A WALK IN MY DREAM."**

The film features musician **Mike Stevens**, who is probably the only harmonica player in the World to appear on the Grand Ol' Opry stage more than 300 times; give himself eight hernias because of the way he plays; and be named Kentucky Colonel by the Governor of Kentucky for his outstanding contribution to bluegrass music.

Ten years ago, at the top of his game, Mike's career took a sudden and drastic detour when he found himself face to face with a group of Labrador youth living in unimaginable conditions. His life would never be the same...and neither would theirs.

The film will debut at the TIFF Bell Lightbox and will launch the 2011 CFMA events on Friday, December 2 at 8:00 pm. **Tickets** are \$20, available at the TIFF box office, and a full 50% of the ticket price will be a donation to **ArtsCan Circle**, the registered charity organization inspired by Stevens' work and dedicated to linking creative artists with Indigenous youth at risk in Canada.

NOMINEE SHOWCASE

Saturday, December 3 @ 8:30 pm

Hugh's Room in Toronto will be hopping with a special evening of showcases, where a selection of nominees from the 19 award categories (plus the new "Unsung Hero" award), will each perform a set of their best tunes, giving a taste of Canada's widespread wellspring of talent.

SHOWCASE PERFORMERS INCLUDE:

DAVE GUNNING www.davegunning.com

(Halifax, NS) – Nominations for Traditional Album, Traditional Singer, New Artist, Producer Of The Year

JANET PANIC www.janetpanic.com

(Sechelt, BC) – Nominated for Aboriginal Songwriter

QRISTINA & QUINN BACHAND www.qbanchand.com

(Victoria BC) – Nominated for Instrumental Group, Youth

ASHLEY CONDON www.ashleycondon.com

(Montague, PEI) – Nominated for New Artist

MASSIEL YANIRA www.massielyanira.com

(Montréal, QC) – Nominated for World Artist Of The Year - Solo

LIZZY HOYT www.lizzyhozt.com

(Edmonton, AB) – Nominated for Traditional Singer

OUZO POWER www.ouzopower.ca

(Toronto, ON) – Nominated for World Artist Of The Year - Group

RAZ-DE-MARÉE / TIDAL WAVE www.rikbarron.com

(Québec City, QC) – Nominated for Instrumental Group

WORKSHOP “Good Songs for Bad Times”

Sunday, December 4 @ 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Songwriters, like all of us, live through ever-changing scenarios: personal, political, romantic, economic, social, or related to world affairs, and each writer reacts differently. This workshop will examine good songs that stem from bad times.

Host: Candace Shaw, Peterborough Folk Festival <http://ptbofolkfest.com>

Participants: evalyn parry, Dave Gunning, Melisande

WORKSHOP “Mad for Trad”

Sunday, December 4 @ 2:15 - 3:15 pm

Traditional music is the backbone for most styles of folk and roots music. This session picks up from a fabulous “trad” music workshop at the recent 25th annual OCFF conference and features “trad” players who exemplify the finest programming goals of the Celtic Roots Festival held on the August long weekend each year in Goderich, ON – immediately following their week-long “Celtic College” of training in music, storytelling and technical arts and crafts.

Hosts: Eleanor and Warren Robinson, Goderich Celtic Roots Festival <http://www.celticfest.ca>

Participants: Shane Cook, Jean Hewson & Christina Smith, Qristina and Quinn Bachand

CFMA GALA

Sunday, December 4 @ 8:00 pm

Awards will be presented in 19 categories (plus the new Unsung Hero award), throughout the evening, hosted by SHELAGH ROGERS of CBC Radio and BENOIT BOURQUE of La Bottine Souriante. Included in the ceremonies will be musical performances from the COMMON THREAD COMMUNITY CHORUS, LOREENA MCKENNITT, JIM BYRNES, ROSE COUSINS, SOUL INFLUENCE and DE TEMPS ANTAN.

The 2010 CFMAs gratefully acknowledge the support of SOCAN, The Woods Music and Dance Camp, Edmonton Folk Music Festival, Ottawa Folklore Centre (OFC), Ontario Council of Folk Festivals (OCFF), Penguin Eggs Magazine, Fogarty's Cove Music, Canada Council for the Arts, FACTOR, Calgary Folk Music Festival, Calgary Folk Club, Hugh's Room, SOCAN Foundation, Ottawa Folk Festival, Province of New Brunswick, TD Bank, Mariposa Festival, Twelfth Fret Guitarists' Pro Shop

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