

Friends of the Museums of Mississauga



NEWS RELEASE: May 6, 2009

On the Verandah – Summer Concert Series 2009

Friends of the Museums of Mississauga present a summer-long program of outdoor music concerts: On the Verandah at Benares Historic House, 1507 Clarkson Road North.

Friday evening, the show starts at 7:30. Bring along your lawn chairs or blankets, best sing-along voices, and a supply of insect repellent. Arrive early to secure the best vantage point for your evening of musical enjoyment.

June 5 begins the On the Verandah season with SELAHRATION. This women's triple trio is based at Church of St. Bride, near neighbour to Benares. They present a varied selection of traditional and current sacred songs, plus some folk tunes and crowd engaging sing-along favourites.

June 12 Age of Reason led by Michelle Giacometti return to Benares Historic House for another fun program of 60's & 70's classics. Their familiar repertoire includes lots of hit songs from over the years. This group will bring you back to your teens!

June 19 Playford Players returns to On the Verandah. Philip Corke and Roland Packer present traditional and original compositions for hammer dulcimer, guitar, bowed psaltery, Irish bouzouki, and mandolin. The CD's Dog Days and Maple Grove will make great take-aways from this program. You can hear samples of their unique sound at www.playfordplayers.com.

June 26 iStar Youth in the Arts bring their drummers, dancers and singers to Benares. iStar is a Mississauga based non-profit organization with a 25 year history of engaging young people in the performing arts. Friends of the Museums are very glad to welcome iStar On the Verandah. Learn more about this troupe at www.istaryouth.org.

July 3 Periwinkle Rose makes their first appearance On the Verandah. Pauline Grondin and Diane Kennedy perform Heritage songs of the British Isles with voice and Bodhran, Mountain Dulcimers, Autoharp, Guitars, Celtic Harp and more. For more information about this unique duo of performers see www.paulinegrondin.com.

July 10 we welcome Sandi Marie Porter and Guy Breau back to Benares, together performing a wonderful selection of originals and tastefully chosen covers. Interpreting in their unique style artists such as Leonard Cohen, Emmy Lou Harris, Serena Ryder and Mark Knopfler, Sandi and Guy offer a powerful and dynamic collaboration, featuring rich guitar rhythms with strong, soulful vocals and beautifully blended harmonies. With a rootsy, bluesy, folk feel, this show is sure to please music lovers from all walks and genres.

July 24 features Mississauga Chamber Music in their first performance On the Verandah. Mississauga's own classical instrumentalists bring a selection of traditional arrangements to enthral music-lovers with well-known tunes from long ago, and not so long ago. Benares Historic House is sure to choose this performance at her favourite this summer!

July 31 Moira Nelson (harp, voice, guitar) and Elena Jubinville (cello, voice, guitar) return to On the Verandah, joined by percussionist Laura Savage. From instrumentals to a cappella harmonies, original compositions to traditional favourites and even a touch of the blues, performances offer a refreshingly modern take on traditional music - romantic, edgy, magical. Their most recent CD will be available – you'll want to have a copy of "Echoes of Another Time" for yourself after hearing Moira and Elena live! CD information and sound clips at www.willowmyst.com.

August 7 features an exciting Double Bill: Fiddler Alana Cline plus Blues Singer-Songwriter Roger Zuraw at Benares Historic House. Alana is a skilled young musician, having played fiddle for many years. We all enjoyed hearing her Celtic selections at Clarkson's 200th Birthday Celebration in 2008, and Alana was a featured performer at St. Patrick's Day celebrations at Bradley Museum. Roger is "that legendary blues guy from Toronto" according to ThatRadio.com. A long ago emigrant from Poland, his repertoire includes songs about Canada, and even Mississauga! Check out Alana's website at www.alanacline.com, and Roger's latest blues project at www.cdbaby.com/rogerzuraw.

August 14 we welcome John Gibson and his fabulous piano back to the Verandah! John is a versatile entertainer with world-wide experience performing in piano bars on land and at sea. His repertoire is nostalgic including hits from the greatest in Rock 'n Roll. Hear clips of John at www.jo-v-il.com.

August 21 Carlos Bastidas brings his Latin Journey to On the Verandah. Carlos' music is best described as an innovative blend of Andean, Afro-Cuban and Jazz music. He is an award-winning composer and master performer of the South American bamboo flutes. See www.carlosmusic.com to learn more about this exciting new addition to the program.

August 28 we close our season with the folk duo Ablett and Cooper, perennial favorites On the Verandah. The love of acoustic fingerstyle guitar brought Don Ablett and Brent Cooper together some years ago. With common influences such as Bruce Cockburn, John Fahey, and Stefan Grossman, they have developed a style that has thrilled fans young and old around Southern Ontario. Both have a strong history of performance, Brent through his former years touring with the rock band, Mankind, and Don through many years of coffee houses and festivals. The most outstanding features noted by audiences are Brent and Don's vocal harmonies and the complex and spectacular fingerstyle interplay between the two guitars. June of last year saw the release of their second CD, "Changing Landscapes". Their originals are greatly influenced by the environment around them. Please stop by their website, www.ablettandcooper.ca.

Light refreshments available for purchase at each concert.

Admission is Pay-What-You-Can. The proceeds are divided between the Friends and the performers. The Friends portion is designated to assist with bussing expenses for school children to participate in experiential history at Benares Historic House and Bradley Museum.

In the event of severe weather, call 905-615-4860 to confirm the program start time.