

## Press Release

### **EVENT: 19th MILL RACE FESTIVAL OF TRADITIONAL FOLK MUSIC**

**WHERE:** Downtown Cambridge including Mill Race Park, Water Street, Dickson Street and Main Street in Galt.

**WHEN:** Friday, July 29, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday, July 30, 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday, July 31, 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.

**WHAT:** Numerous performers of traditional folk music from many cultures, other music styles, Morris dancing and children's performers too!

**ADMISSION:** FREE!!

**CONTACT:** Artistic Director Brad McEwen

**TEL:** 519-621-7135

**WEBSITE:** [www.millracefolksociety.com/festival.htm](http://www.millracefolksociety.com/festival.htm)

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**July 4, 2011**

### **MILL RACE FESTIVAL GETS EVEN BETTER!**

**CAMBRIDGE** – Now entering its 19<sup>th</sup> year, the Mill Race Festival of Traditional Folk Music continues to evolve and grow as an event that is unique in North America, taking its inspiration from festivals in the United Kingdom and Europe.

This year's festival has some exciting new program features, along with those that have pleased crowds from far and wide in the past.

In its second year at the festival is the Youth Showcase, which is designed to give young performers (as young as eight!) experience on the stage.

The lineup of performers includes some who will be on our stages for the first time, as well as performers that Mill Race audiences will be familiar with.

Appearing at the festival for the first time this year is The Metis Fiddler Quartet, a family ensemble performing traditional Canadian Metis and Native fiddle music. This versatile bilingual Ensemble is dedicated to exposing new audiences to the diversity of this remarkable music.

Also in the lineup is Jim Mageean & Graeme Knights, 2 singers best known for their association with the late, great Johnny Collins. Jim and Graeme specialize in unaccompanied chorus songs, Sea Shanties, Mining Songs, Drinking Songs and more.

British groups abound. Mary Humphreys & Anahata bring traditional English songs from Cambridgeshire and a few from Mary's native Wales.

Many local favourites are returning, Failte, Phil Elseworthy & Ed Koenig and Whirly Gig. Also returning is the ever popular Zubrivka, bringing the music of the Ukraine to us - last here in 2009.

With that Appalachian sound is The Saturday Saints. Their banjo and flat-picking guitar bring their collection of bluegrass songs to delight us.

Paddy Tutty brings ancient ballads from the Child collection, along with songs of prairie sagas on her guitar, fretted dulcimer and concertina.

If Celtic music is your favourite we have rising stars Tattie Jam with tunes ranging from slow airs to driving Strathspeys and kinetic jigs and reels. Gidley & Brown have a particular focus on the music of Clare and Kerry counties in Ireland. Single Malt, Sixpenny Money and Kristen, Pat & Friends contribute their Cape Breton, Irish and Scottish tunes to the mix.

Olde time and honky-tonk country is brought to you by The Good Right Arm Stringband . The Hamilton Open Band is an exciting new contra dance band made up of musicians from the Hamilton, Ontario area. Get ready for great music and put on your dancing shoes for a variety of country dances.

The diversity of music and cultures represented at this festival is broad. Bon Debarras presents an impressive stock of East European, Manouche and Cajun music. Galitcha is returning with their original compositions based on Indian folk music, combined with influences from jazz, world and North American folk. Jorge Miguel Flamenco Ensemble create new music that both takes flamenco somewhere new and preserves its spirit and soul. Ouzo Power's George Sapounidis combines rock infused Greek folk songs , with Mandarin ballads and music in a dozen languages. Tio Chorinho is an exciting new Brazilian music group. Choro is the 'New Orleans jazz of Brazil'.

Adding to the unique atmosphere of the festival are the well-established pub sessions in the Golden Kiwi for traditional musicians and Singarounds in their new location in the Naval Veterans Hall at the corner of Cambridge and Thorne streets, 1 block north of City Hall.

The ever popular Childrens Stage is ready to entertain our young visitors again.

The festival also continues to modify its operations. Last year's choice of the Market Plaza for the Craft Vendors will be continued gain, but the Acoustic Tent with its up-close, unplugged concerts will be expanded to now include both Saturday and Sunday. There will now be music in the Craft Area during most of the festivals hours of operation.

The Morris Dancers are one of the crowd-pleasing favourite fixtures of the Mill Race Festival and this year, they will be performing on upper Dickson Street by the Firehall Museum on the Saturday afternoon.

With the backdrop of the Grand River and surrounded by 19<sup>th</sup> Century stone architecture that clearly shows the Scottish heritage of Galt, this event has a distinctly European atmosphere. All the venues are located within walking distance in the historic centre of the downtown Galt portion of Cambridge.

All of these various performers, the setting and the special nature of the area combine to make this a unique musical event. And it's **FREE**.

But of course, we couldn't do it without our sponsors, including:

**Corporation of the City of Cambridge**  
**Canadian Heritage**  
**Ontario Arts Council**  
**Downtown Cambridge Business Improvement Association**  
**The Golden Kiwi Pub**  
**Café 13**  
**Rti cryogenics**  
**Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada Inc.**  
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**The Socan Foundation**  
**D3 Impact**  
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**Rockwell Automation**  
**Cambridge & North Dumfries Hydro**  
**The South Waterloo Naval Veterans Association**  
**Cambridge Hyundai**  
**Angus Audio**  
**Sentex**  
**Centra**

These are just a few of the highlights. For a complete list of performers and their biographies, please visit the website, [www.millracefolksociety.com/festival.htm](http://www.millracefolksociety.com/festival.htm)

**For interviews, or more information contact Brad McEwen at: 519-621-7135**

**Email: [mill\\_race@yahoo.com](mailto:mill_race@yahoo.com)**

**For folk music events throughout the year, please visit our Web site:**

[www.millracefolksociety.com](http://www.millracefolksociety.com)

**Part of the Grand River Folk Community [www.grandriverfolk.org](http://www.grandriverfolk.org)**

## **PROGRAMME ADVANCE SALE LOCATIONS**

Programmes are available. Please contact all Advance Sales locations in advance to make sure that they have them before making the journey to purchase one.

### **CAMBRIDGE**

Bookworks	64 Grand Ave. S	N1S 2L8	519-623-7531
Bux	64 Grand Ave. S	N1S 2L8	519-623-7531
Cambridge Visitor Centre	750 Hespeler Rd	N3H 5L8	519-622-2336
Cambridge Centre for the Arts	60 Dickson St.	N1R 8N1	519-740-4681
Café 13 Main Street Grill	13 Main St.	N1R 7G9	519-622-1799
Classical Guitars & Accessories	19 Queen St. E	N3C 2A7	519-651-0588
Enchanted Castle Gallery	51-53 Main St.	N1R 1V6	519-621-6824
Golden Kiwi Pub & Grill	47 Dickson St.	N1R 7A5	519-622-3722
Grand River Book Company	79 Dickson St.	N1R 7A5	519-624-9842

Grand River Brewing	295 Ainslie St.	N1R 3L3	519-620-3233
MacAulay's Music	1118 King St E	N3H 3P6	519-653-5060
McDougall Cottage	89 Grand Ave. S	N1S 2L7	519-624-8250
The Sock Factory	64 Grand Ave S	N1S 2L8	519-623-7531

### **GUELPH**

Macondo Books	18 Wilson	N1H 4G5	519-836-0430
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### **KITCHENER**

A Second Look	97 Victoria St N	N2H 5C1	519-569-7566
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### **WATERLOO**

Wordsworth Books	100 King St.	N2J 1P5	519-884-2665
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