

Friends of the Museums of Mississauga



NEWS RELEASE: May 22, 2008

On the Verandah – Summer Concert Series 2008

Friends of the Museums of Mississauga presents 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 6 we begin our season with Chris Dube. This artist plays a wide variety of music including John Prine, Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Hank Williams, and many more. A something for everyone kind of evening; the perfect launch to our 2008 On the Verandah season.

June 13 come hear the famous Downtown Freddy Brown. Freddy is a music teacher and veteran performer who plays guitars, brass and keyboard in more styles than you can think of, featuring 'filk' and gospel repertoire. In Freddy's words "my ear takes me to any style done well!"

June 20 is our first ever *Double Bill*, in honour of Clarkson's 200th Anniversary Celebration! The program will begin at 7:15pm to feature John Gibson along with Wendi Hunter and friends. 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. Wendi's voice is clear, lyrical and expressive, every phrase holding a story on its own. Her soft, steady guitar style, and occasionally her banjo or mountain dulcimer provide a happy blend of voice and instrument suited to the ballads, love songs, gospel and spiritual songs that fill her repertoire. This Friday will undoubtedly be a very special one On the Verandah.

June 27 Playford Players returns from two concerts On the Verandah in 2007. 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.

July 4 we welcome back the folk duo Ablett and Cooper (formerly Riverbend). Their unique blend of superb finger style guitar and vocal harmonies is a listening delight. Brent's musical background includes recording and traveling with his rock band "Mankind" during the early 80's. Don has played for years at coffee houses, festivals and other local venues. Encouraged by their complementary styles, they collaborated for three tunes on Don's recent CD, "Just Off Main Street".

July 11 Moira Nelson (harp and voice) and Elena Jubinville (cello and voice) return to On the Verandah to offer a refreshingly modern take on traditional music. Romantic, edgy and just a little bit classical, their performances range from instrumentals to a cappella harmonies, original compositions to traditional favourites. A new CD has been released since last season – you'll want to have a copy of "Echoes of Another Time" for yourself after hearing Moira and Elena live!

July 25 performer to be confirmed.

August 1 Ron Nagle brings his Christian Country sound to Benares Historic House. With over 20 years of song writing and singing experience, Ron's repertoire includes lots of classics, plus many original tunes.

August 8 Gayle Ackroyd mixes the sounds of acoustic blues, folk blues, power belting blues and coffeehouse intimacy, in a unique blend of passion and exuberance that demonstrates her mastery of song-writing. Gayle is an extraordinary talent, we are excited to have her join On the Verandah.

August 15 The Folkers led by Michelle Giacometti return to Benares Historic House for another fun program of 60's & 70's classics. Their familiar repertoire includes sing-along favourites, and some kid style action songs too. This group will bring you back to your teens!

August 22 features Laura Thomas. A seasoned club performer, Laura is recognized for her strong and sweet vocals, and has released a CD called SIMPLE THINGS. Last summer Laura was our cruise-crowd favourite at On the Verandah.

August 29 we close the 2008 season with Sandi Marie Porter. Sandi weaves a wonderful tapestry of melody with voice and guitar, and overlays it with poetic stories of real life and heartrending emotion that we have all felt. Sandi has an easy way with her audience, drawing them into her music, and touches their hearts, and their minds.

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.