

## **Folk Night at the Registry 2008-2009 Season**

### **July 12, 2008**

Folk Night at the Registry ([www.folknight.ca](http://www.folknight.ca)), co-presented by Kitchener's Registry Theatre and Old Chestnuts Song Circle, is delighted to introduce this year's blend of the best international, Canadian, and local folk music performers.

#### **Thursday, October 16/08: Archie Fisher plus Laura Bird**

Scotland's **Archie Fisher** is a singer-songwriter of legendary status. Since the early 1960s he has been a leading proponent of Scottish traditional music, influencing generations of musicians and taking his songs to stages around the world. From 1988 to 1992 Archie directed the Edinburgh Folk Festival. He produced radio features and documentaries for BBC Radio and eventually launched the BBC show *Traveling Folk*, which he has hosted for over 25 years. A songwriter's songwriter ("*Dark Eyed Molly*", "*The Witch of Westmoreland*", "*Final Trawl*") whose craft is known around the world, Archie Fisher is one of the most gifted and respected artists of his genre. He has just released, *Windward Away*, a new album 10 years in the making, adding to his remarkable canon which includes two albums with Garnet Rogers.

**Laura Bird's** performances and songwriting have garnered critical praise and recognition following the release of her album *Dreamwalker*, and appearances at Summerfolk, Blue Skies, and Mariposa festivals. Laura performs as part of **The Pomeles**, and is now recording her second album, *The Water In Between*, to be released this fall.

#### **Saturday, November 29/08: Riverside Celtic College Faculty**

**Riverside Celtic College** is a school of traditional Irish and Scottish music, dance, and language in Guelph, Ontario. The faculty includes some of Southern Ontario's most respected Celtic musicians. Scheduled to appear (so far) in an evening of ensemble groupings are: **Bob MacLean, Duncan Cameron, Andy Webster, Jason Pfeiffer, Steve Fuller, Irene Shelton, WhirlyGig, Carolyn Buck, Phil Elsworthy, Ed Koenig, Les Starkey** and **Irish Ceili dancers** with caller **Siobhan Harrop**.

#### **Saturday, January 31/09: Girls With Glasses plus Darrell Grant**

Originally a "one-time-only" concert collective that began in 2004, **Girls with Glasses** has evolved into a band that is more than the sum of its parts. **Eve Goldberg, Evalyn Parry, and Karyn Ellis** all have solid solo careers, but when they take the stage together, something magical happens. By turns hilarious, evocative, poignant, uplifting, and powerful, Girls with Glasses concerts feature stellar songwriting, beautiful harmonies, imaginative arrangements, and, of course, a glimpse at life behind the lenses.

For seven years **Darrell Grant** was the songwriter / guitarist / singer behind the New Brunswick folk trio, Modabo, an overwhelming favourite of dedicated KW folk fans. After nearly 10 years, Darrell returns with a bundle of old and new songs and instrumentals, performed with his intricate finger-picking guitar style.

#### **Saturday, March 14/09: Ron Hynes**

With a songwriting career that spans more than 30 years, **Ron Hynes** is a six-time East Coast Music Award (ECMA) winner, a Genie Award winner and a Juno, CCMA and Canadian Folk Music Awards nominee. He's been recipient of both Artist of The Year and the prestigious Arts Achievement Award from the Newfoundland & Labrador Arts Council, as well as a Lifetime

Achievement Award from the St. John's Folk Arts Council. Ron Hynes also holds an Honorary PhD from Memorial University for his songwriting and contribution to the cultural life of his beloved home province. Frequently referred to as the "man of a thousand songs", Ron Hynes' songs have been covered by dozens of artists worldwide, including Emmylou Harris, Christy Moore, Mary Black, Denny Doherty, Murray McLauchlan, Valdy, John McDermott, Terry Kelly, Prairie Oyster, The Good Brothers, Shaye, The Cottars and most recently, classical soprano Hayley Westenra.

Join us for an entire evening with this Newfoundland and Canadian musical legend!

**Saturday, April 18/09: Dave Gunning and Maria Dunn: East Meets West Double Feature**

A storyteller through song, Edmonton's **Maria Dunn** combines North American folk and country music with the influences of her Celtic heritage. Born in Scotland and raised in Ontario and Alberta, she writes songs inspired by historical and contemporary characters, capturing their struggles and triumphs in her lyrics. In 2002, Maria received a Juno nomination in the Roots/Traditional Solo category for her second recording, *For a Song*. Following a third recording and extensive touring in Canada and Europe, Maria brings her dramatic vocals and guitar to Folk Night!

Nova Scotia's **Dave Gunning** has been acclaimed as one of Canada's best up-and-coming singer-songwriters. A charismatic performer, Dave is known for infusing his shows with his own brand of humorous tales and touching commentary on the everyday, bringing a new vibrance, energy and life to his heartfelt songs. Blending sensitive folk and innovative arrangements to his original and traditional songs, Gunning is rapidly building a solid audience fan base wherever he performs. Recently, picking up 2008 East Coast Music Awards for Male Artist of the Year and Folk Recording of the Year for his sixth recording, *House For Sale*, Gunning has solidified his place as a respected songwriter and performer.

**Saturday, May 9/09 – 2009 Merrick Jarrett Concert: Finest Kind plus Beverlie Robertson**

**Finest Kind** is the remarkable folk trio from Ottawa, whose exquisite harmony singing and brilliant vocal arrangements are bringing a fresh sense of excitement and discovery to the performance of old songs. The trio's glorious sound, served up with easy-going humour, has won a devoted following across North America. Formed in 1991 by **Ian Robb, Ann Downey, and Shelley Posen**, the variety of their individual musical backgrounds makes for an exhilarating mix of repertoire. British, American, Irish, and Canadian traditional ballads keep company with gospel rousers, drinking songs, sea shanties, and pop oldies. Finest Kind has released four recordings, their latest being *Feasts & Spirits* in 2004.

Friend and colleague of Merrick Jarrett, **Beverlie Robertson** has been performing professionally for many years, accompanying her songs on 6 and 12-string guitars, dulcimer, autoharp and percussion. As one of the folk trio The Chanteclairs in the 60's she traveled extensively in North America, Europe and the UK. before settling for many years in KW.

**Series passes for \$85 are available from [jhcole@mgl.ca](mailto:jhcole@mgl.ca) and Twelfth Night Music in Waterloo. Tickets for all Folk Night at the Registry concerts are on sale now from those outlets plus the Centre In The Square box office.**

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