

ADIA VICTORIA | TENNESSEE – ALTERNATIVE/BLUES/ROCK

Adia Victoria, a proud South Carolinian, weaves tales of the Deep South throughout her albums. Her distinctive blend of blues and gothic country creates a hauntingly beautiful sound. Her latest release, *Southern Gothic*, will transport you to another time and place, where the moving sounds of the South will fill your soul.

ANDRINA TURENNE | MANITOBA – ROOTS/AMERICANA

Andrina Turenne is an incredibly talented Franco-Manitoban Métis artist with over two decades of experience in the music industry. Her voice has graced over 50 albums and she even won a coveted Juno award with her former band Chic Gamine. Turenne has just released her debut solo album, *Bold as Logs*.

ARMY MARGRET | ICELAND – FOLK

Army Margret is a 21-year-old singer-songwriter from Iceland. She has gained critical acclaim and was nominated as the newcomer at the Icelandic Music awards in 2022. Her debut album, *They Only Talk About The Weather*, explores her coming-of-age journey and touches on loneliness, existentialism and her relationships growing up.

AYSANABEE | SANDY LAKE FIRST NATION – ALTERNATIVE

Aysanabee is a Toronto-based Juno-nominated multi-instrumentalist, producer and singer-songwriter from Sandy Lake First Nation. He began creating music during the pandemic and his debut album, *Watin*, features music that includes the voice of his grandfather. His hypnotic and melodic sound has been compared to artists such as Bon Iver and Sam Smith.

BALAKLAVA BLUES | ONTARIO – FOLK NOIR/EDM

Balaklava Blues is a Ukrainian folk-noir band that blends traditional polyphonic music with personal stories and sounds of revolution and war. Their live shows incorporate stunning visuals that blend folk motifs with contemporary expressions of power, vulnerability and trauma. They released their album, *Let Me Out*, in 2022.

BELLA WHITE | BRITISH COLUMBIA – AMERICANA

Bella White is a 22-year-old singer and multi-instrumentalist. Her albums showcase her old-time musicality and contemporary lyrical perspective as she documents her coming-of-age experiences in real-time. White grew up on classic country and old-time music, which her Virginia-native father introduced to her. She released her album, *Among Other Things*, in 2023.

BLACK BELT EAGLE SCOUT | OREGON – EXPERIMENTAL

Black Belt Eagle Scout's a.k.a. Katherine Paul's 2023 album, *The Land, The Water, The Sky*, is a celebration of lineage, strength and returning to their ancestral lands. Her songs reflect a journey home and each one is a love letter to Indigenous strength and healing. Katherine Paul has channeled that feeling of being held. The power of the land is woven throughout the album.

BLACK OPRY REVUE | VARIOUS – AMERICANA/COUNTRY/ROOTS

The Black Opry Revue is a vibrant community for Black artists, fans, and industry professionals in country, Americana, blues, and folk music. It's a rallying cry for marginalized communities, a place to amplify the work of Black country artists, and a network to build a sense of community and bypass racist institutions. It was founded in April 2021 by Holly G.

BOLA ORIYOMI | MANITOBA – FAMILY/STORYTELLER

Bola Oriyomi is a Nigerian storyteller and cultural performer who has been performing for over 25 years. She draws inspiration from traditional African folktales and her life experiences to create engaging stories and performances. Bola has performed globally and is the founder of Ariya Afrika Cultural Group, a contemporary African dance group. Her work has been featured on CBC Radio.

BUENROSTRO | MEXICO – WORLDBEAT

Buenrostro is a dynamic multicultural musical project hailing from Milpa Alta, Mexico City. Inspired by their ancestors' traditional rhythms and worldwide genres, they bring an innovative approach to their music that has taken them to stages both in Mexico and abroad. With each new song, Buenrostro transforms, defying traditional sonority with fresh and daring touches. Their music is a vibrant celebration of culture and creativity.

BUFFALO NICHOLS | WISCONSIN - BLUES

Since his earliest infatuations with guitar, Buffalo Nichols has asked himself the same question: How can I bring the blues of the past into the future? It was a globetrotting trip through West Africa and Europe during a creative down period that began to reveal the answer. He released his self-titled album in 2021.

CASTLEMOON THEATRE | MANITOBA – CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Castlemoon is theatre for young audiences specializing in puppetry and workshops. They've created stories inspired by children's literature since 2007, with music, soundscape and visual worlds made by composers and visual artists. Facilitator Carrie Costello has toured Canada, the US and Scotland.

CAT CLYDE | ONTARIO – INDIE-FOLK

Canadian indie folk singer-songwriter Cat Clyde has released her third album, Down Rounder. It's a captivating and heartfelt record that delves into her personal experiences while also celebrating the beauty of the world around her. With the help of producer Tony Berg, the album's stripped-back sound was expertly crafted in a mere six days, resulting in a truly exceptional musical experience.

CEDRIC WATSON & DIRK POWELL | LOUISIANA – CREOLE

Dirk Powell and Cedric Watson are Louisiana musicians who combine Cajun, Creole and old-time Appalachian traditions in their music. Dirk Powell is an accomplished multi-instrumentalist who has played with many famous musicians such as Joan Baez, Lorette Lynn and Eric Clapton, while Cedric Watson is a four-time Grammy nominated fiddler, accordionist and songwriter who is leading the new generation of Cajun and Creole musicians.

CHARLEY CROCKETT | TEXAS – AMERICANA/COUNTRY

Charley Crockett is a rising star in the music industry with a unique sound that blends traditional country, blues and soul. His heartfelt lyrics and dynamic stage presence are sure to capture your heart and leave you wanting more. His most recent album *The Man From Waco* was released in fall of 2022 and has become one of his most listened to albums.

CHARLOTTE CORNFIELD | ONTARIO – ALTERNATIVE/INDIE/FOLK

Charlotte Cornfield's *Highs in the Minuses* is a deeply personal album that captures the energy of live performance. The folk-rock symphony, recorded with friends and colleagues, reflects each song's feeling. Cornfield's lyrics convey heartbreak, self-discovery, and new love with raw and shambolic commonality. Despite its brutal honesty, *Highs in the Minuses* invites listeners to feel alongside Cornfield, presenting details like a documentary.

DJ SHUB PRESENTS WAR CLUB | ONTARIO – POWWOWSTEP/ELECTRONIC/DJ

DJ Shub, a Mohawk of the Six Nations of the Grand River in Canada, is known as the Godfather of PowWowStep. His latest album *War Club* (2020) was critically acclaimed and featured collaborations with other Indigenous and BIPOC artists. DJ Shub won the 2022 JUNO award for Contemporary Indigenous Artist of the Year.

DONGYANG GOZUPA | SOUTH KOREA – ROCK/KOREAN CLASSICAL

Dongyang Gozupa is a Korean progressive rock band that incorporates traditional Korean music with Yanggeum (Korean hammered dulcimer), bass and percussion. Their music is difficult to categorize, blending elements of progressive and post-rock with traditional music.

EMMYLOU HARRIS | ALABAMA – SINGER-SONGWRITER

Legendary American singer-songwriter, EmmyLou Harris, is a highly respected artist whose career spans 40 years. With 14 Grammy Awards, three CMA Awards, four Americana Awards and an induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame she is one of the most decorated artists in the industry. Her music spans multiple genres, including country, folk and Americana.

EVAN REDSKY | ONTARIO – AMERICANA/FOLK

Evan Redsky is a First Nations songwriter from Mississauga First Nation, currently residing in Toronto. His latest album, *Oblivion*, combines traditional storytelling and poignant commentary on the human condition. Redsky's personal experiences with intergenerational trauma and the injustices faced by Indigenous peoples in Canada inform his music and advocacy work.

FAYE WEBSTER | GEORGIA – SINGER-SONGWRITER

Faye Webster is a young, talented songwriter from Atlanta, Georgia. Her music is infused with raw emotion, which she captures by writing from the heart and then heading straight to the studio to record the next day. Her signature style blends intimate, whisper-quiet vocals with the unmistakable sound of musicians playing together in the same room. In 2022, she released her highly anticipated album, *Car Therapy Sessions*. Get swept away by her soulful melodies and heart-wrenching lyrics.

FIELD GUIDE | MANITOBA – ALTERNATIVE

Field Guide crafts captivating soundscapes with lush textures and captivating melodies in his self-titled sophomore album. His songs capture the perfect balance between darkness and optimism, exploring themes of love, finding joy in melancholy and embracing uncertainty. He recently released a reimagined version his album titled *Field Guide (Tape Redux)* that showcases his raw talent and artistry.

FINJAN | MANITOBA – KLEZMER

Finjan's performance debut was at the 1983 Winnipeg Folk Festival giving them 40 years of experience! Finjan will transport you to the heart of klezmer music with their traditional dance favourites, original compositions and Yiddish theatre hits. Get ready to dance because you won't be able to sit still!

FIRE & SMOKE | MANITOBA/QUEBEC – FOLKS/ROOTS

Fire & Smoke is an enchanting bilingual folk-roots duo, featuring the captivating storytelling of Claire Morrison and Daniel Péroquin-Hopfner. With their haunting melodies and intimate lyrics, they have been honored with numerous awards, including the prestigious CBC/Radio-Canada Phonogramme Prize and a coveted spot on CBC Canada Live.

FLEET FOXES | WASHINGTON – FOLK

Fleet Foxes, an American indie folk band hailing from Seattle, WA, released their fourth album *Shore* in the fall of 2020 to critical acclaim. The band's second Grammy nomination (Best Alternative Music Album) was well-deserved, with Rolling Stone calling the album "the most immediately rewarding Fleet Foxes record since their brilliant 2008 debut." If you haven't already, add *Shore* to your playlist ASAP and let the music transport you to a world of indie folk goodness.

FONTINE | MANITOBA – INDIE POP/FOLK

Powerhouse vocalist, FONTINE's new EP titled *Yarrow Lover* was released in February. The EP showcases her talents as a songwriter and vocalist, drawing inspiration from her Nehiyaw Iskwew roots, the natural surroundings of her prairie home and the vibrant musical environment of Winnipeg. FONTINE will mesmerize with beautiful melodies and intimate storytelling.

FRUIT BATS | CALIFORNIA – ALTERNATIVE

Fruit Bats' songwriter Eric D. Johnson has an unbridled passion for the world, rooted in his family's nomadic lifestyle and his experiences as a touring musician. His latest album, *A River Running to Your Heart*, is a testament to Johnson's boundless imagination, delving into the significance of what it truly means to have a place to call home.

GENTICORUM | QUEBEC – TRAD MUSIC

Genticorum is a celebration of traditional music! With over 20 years of experience, the Quebec-based trio has performed at prestigious events, winning multiple Canadian Folk Music Awards, as well as Juno and ADISQ nominations. Their stage presence is nothing less than magnetic and their music is intricately woven with gorgeous vocal harmonies and instrumentals that get your toes tapping.

GEORGIA HARMER | ONTARIO – SINGER-SONGWRITER

Georgia Harmer's album *Stay In Touch* beautifully captures fleeting moments with eloquent detail. The songs span genres from folk to rock and showcase the musical chemistry between Harmer and her band. Inspired by personal relationships and the importance of staying true to oneself, the album is a testament to Harmer's musical upbringing and family of artists.

GINALINA | BRITISH COLUMBIA – FAMILY

Ginalina's indie folk music and children's books celebrate family, nature, community, culture, and the connections between them. Her songs and stories are not only respectful and real, but also warm and winsome, fun and folky, and emotive and energizing, creating a delightful world waiting to be explored!

GREEN FOOLS THEATRE | ALBERTA – FAMILY

Green Fools develops, creates, teaches and promotes the arts of mask, puppetry, circus, clown and physical theatre. We aspire to be a supportive, productive environment in which diverse children, artists, audiences and participants can be inspired, grow, create and evolve.

GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV | COLORADO – INDIE FOLK

Gregory Alan Isakov, a horticulturist and musician born in South Africa, has released five studio albums in the indie-rock and folk genres. He gained critical acclaim with his Grammy-nominated album, *Evening Machines*, and has performed with symphonies across the United States. Isakov's latest album, *Appaloosa Bones*, is scheduled for release on August 18th, 2023.

JOE RAINEY | WISCONSIN – POW WOW/EXPERIMENTAL

Joe Rainey is a passionate Pow Wow singer from Red Lake Ojibwe in Minneapolis. He learned the traditional singing style as a child and later formed his own drum group. Rainey's latest album, *Niineta*, is a ground-breaking work that transforms traditional Pow Wow sounds into fresh, experimental tracks, produced in collaboration with Andrew Broder.

JULIAN TAYLOR | ONTARIO – ROOTS

Julian Taylor is a self-managed musician, singer-songwriter and label owner from Toronto. He has established himself as one of Canada's greatest troubadours over his 20-plus year career, earning multiple award nominations for his 2020 LP *The Ridge* and his new album *Beyond the Reservoir* builds on the soul-folk sound and autobiographical themes first explored in *The Ridge*.

KACY & CLAYTON | SASKATCHEWAN – COUNTRY/FOLK

Kacy Anderson and Clayton Linthicum are second cousins who grew up in the rural town of Wood Mountain, Saskatchewan. Their music is a beautiful blend of rare country, blues, and English folk rock, inspired by their upbringing. Their album, *Carrying On*, features live takes with minimal overdubs, giving it a raw and authentic feel that is hard to come by in today's music scene. Listening to their music is like taking a trip down memory lane, back to a simpler time and place filled with warmth, nostalgia, and soul.

KELSEY WALDON | TENNESSEE – ALTERNATIVE/COUNTRY

Kentucky-bred singer/songwriter/guitarist Kelsey Waldon released her fourth album, *No Regular Dog*, in 2022. Waldon's talent for spinning harsh truths into songs that soothe and brighten the soul is on display throughout the album. Waldon showcases her musicality and draws inspiration from eclectic sources such as bluegrass, '60s soul and '70s country-rock.

KO SHIN MOON | FRANCE – SYNTH FOLK

Ko Shin Moon is a dynamic music group founded by Axel Moon and Niko Shin in 2017. They fuse traditional Eastern strings with electronic music to create captivating and otherworldly melodies. Their music is a unique blend of psychedelia, space disco, and electric baglama, inspired by a passion for experimentation and musical exploration.

KRIS ULRICH | MANITOBA – SINGER-SONGWRITER

Kris Ulrich is a versatile artist known for producing and co-writing songs. His music features driving drum machines, woozy synth layers and memorable hooks. He has collaborated with Manitoba favorites such as Boy Golden, Field Guide, Cassidy Mann, Roman Clarke and FONTINE. Check out his latest album *Big in the USA*, released in March.

KT TUNSTALL | NEW MEXICO – ROCK/POP

KT Tunstall is a Scottish sensation that has taken the music world by storm. With her multi-platinum debut album, *Eye to the Telescope*, she made a name for herself and has only grown in popularity since. Her latest album, *Nut*, which is the final installment of her trilogy focused on the soul, body, and mind, showcases her exceptional musical style.

LA TROUPE JEUNESSE DE L'ENSEMBLE FOLKLORIQUE DE LA RIVIÈRE-ROUGE | MANITOBA – TRADITIONAL DANCE

Experience the lively and infectious energy of this talented group of young dancers, musicians and singers. Promoting traditional French Canadian and Métis music and dance. Since their formation in 2011, they have performed at international folk festivals and prestigious events worldwide.

LEAF RAPIDS | MANITOBA – AMERICANA/FOLK

Leaf Rapids is a phenomenal band hailing from the small, isolated town of the same name in northern Manitoba. Their music is a one-of-a-kind blend of cinematic Canadiana, Manitoba Motown, and spacey spaghetti-western that will leave you breathless. They boast top-notch songwriting, sweet harmonies, and luscious electric guitar tones that will transport you to another world. Critics rave about their vocals, describing them as "liquid silver."

LEON TIMBO | FLORIDA – SOUL/COUNTRY

Leon Timbo is a gifted country-soul singer-songwriter hailing from Jacksonville, FL, where music has been a part of his life since he was young. At the tender age of sixteen, Leon began to showcase his amazing singing abilities, and by twenty, he had picked up the guitar, taking inspiration from music greats Bill Withers, James Taylor, and Tim Miner. Leon's music is an eclectic mix of vintage soul, gospel, folk, R&B, and modern blues, all blended together to create a sound that's truly unique.

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III | NEW YORK - FOLK

Loudon Wainwright III is an American singer-songwriter and occasional actor. He won a Grammy Award for Best Traditional Folk Album in 2010 and has had several nominations. He has had his songs covered by several notable artists such as Johnny Cash and has also acted in various films and television shows, including *Knocked Up*, *The Aviator* and *Parks and Recreation*.

LOWDOWN BRASS BAND | ILLINOIS – HIP HOP/JAZZ/REGGAE/SOUL

The LowDown Brass Band from Chicago is a musical powerhouse that infuses dancehall, street-beat rhythm, hip hop, jazz, reggae and soul into their incredibly unique sound. They've blown audiences away at festivals and events all over the world, from the Montreal Jazz Festival to the Vancouver Jazz Fest and the Chicago Jazz Fest. With their latest two albums under their belt, the band is currently on tour bringing their infectious energy to fans far and wide.

MARIEL BUCKLEY | ALBERTA – AMERICANA

Mariel Buckley, a songwriter for the underdog, released Polaris Prize Long List album *Everywhere I Used to Be* in 2022. The album is an authentic representation of her life experiences, including mental illness, addiction, bad choices and abusive relationships. It features haunting pedal steel, deep groove and heavy synth pads, resulting in a driving, swooning, toe-tapping catharsis.

MATT FOSTER | MANITOBA – AMERICANA

Matt Foster is a multi-talented artist whose music has been featured in movies and TV shows worldwide. With their debut album, *True Needs*, released in 2022, they have captured critical acclaim and international praise. Foster's exceptional sound and incredible talent are sure to blow you away.

MYRIAM GENDRON | QUEBEC – FOLK

Myriam Gendron has just released *Ma délire – Songs of love, lost & found*, a stunning exploration of North American folk tales and traditional melodies. Her bilingual double album, which runs for 75 minutes, is a modern masterpiece that showcases her incredible talent. Released on October 1, 2021, by Feeding Tube Records and Les Albums Claus, this album is a must-listen for anyone who loves music!

NAMGAR | MONGOLIA – ETHNO-ROCK

Namgar is a dynamic group that seamlessly blends Buryat-Mongolian tradition with modern rock and jazz elements. Their sound is a fusion of traditional Mongolian instruments alongside electric bass and drums. They transport listeners back to ancient times, telling tales of Mongol fighters, champions, horses and famous battles. And let's not forget lead singer Namgar Lhasaranova's impressive vocal range, which is sure to leave you in awe.

NICOLETTE & THE NOBODIES | ONTARIO – COUNTRY

Nicolette & The Nobodies is an outlaw country band hailing from Guelph, Ontario. With their debut album, *Devil's Run*, released in February 2019, they bring a fresh take on the classic songs of 60's and 70's cowboys and country starlets. They dress to impress and always deliver a set of toe-tapping sad songs and heart-wrenching ballads that speak to the lonely hearts in all of us.

NORA BROWN WITH STEPHANIE COLEMAN | NEW YORK – FOLK

Nora Brown learned music from the late Shlomo Pestcoe when she was six years old. She plays traditional music, focusing on southern Appalachian banjo and guitar playing and has learned directly from master musicians such as Alice Gerrard, George Gibson, Lee Sexton and Art Rosenbaum. She will be joined by award-winning fiddler Stephanie Coleman.

PANDA BEAR & SONIC BOOM | USA/PORTUGAL – ALTERNATIVE/INDIE

Panda Bear and Sonic Boom, long time collaborators and friends, have finally released their debut album *Reset*. The album was inspired by Sonic Boom's idea of creating song-length loops from snippets of old favourites he rediscovered after moving to Portugal. *Reset* is a masterpiece that brilliantly addresses the challenges of life and provides a path to a brighter future.

PIERRE KWENDERS | QUEBEC – SINGER-SONGWRITER

Pierre Kwenders is a talented musician, songwriter, and DJ from Congo, who resides in Montreal. He paints vivid stories about love and his hometown through his music. His third album, *José Louis and the Paradox of Love*, won the highly acclaimed Polaris Music Prize and incorporates a fusion of Afro-infused electronic sounds and instruments from a variety of cultures.

RICH AUCOIN | NOVA SCOTIA - ELECTRONIC

Rich Aucoin is a musician known for his multi-sensory and interactive live shows that incorporate old films, YouTube videos and confetti. He has been long listed for the Polaris Music Prize twice, won the Prism Prize for his music video "Brian Wilson is A.L.I.V.E.," and is considered one of the best live shows in Canada by CBC Radio3.

ROBERTA LEA | VIRGINIA – SINGER-SONGWRITER

Roberta Lea is a rising artist known for her smooth voice and exceptional songwriting. Her single, *Sweet Baby Ray*, earned her a nomination for six music awards, including Song of the Year and Best E.P. Her first country project *Just A Taste* showcases her ability to fuse different country flavors, from classic to soul, rock, pop and folk.

RUFUS WAINWRIGHT | CALIFORNIA – FOLK POP

Rufus Wainwright is a singer-songwriter who has released seven studio albums, three DVDs and three live albums. He has received Juno Awards for Best Alternative Album in 1999 and 2002 and nominations for his albums *Want Two* (2005) and *Release the Stars* (2008). Wainwright has collaborated with artists including Elton John, David Byrne and Joni Mitchell.

RUBY SINGH'S KRAKIN | BRITISH COLUMBIA – FAMILY/HIP HOP

kraKIN is a hip-hop collaboration that goes beyond human, hailing from the beautiful landscapes of British Columbia. They take field recordings of local biomes, cross-fade them and chop them, and then use "biosonification," a technology that turns the bioelectric signature of living beings into musical information, to create a truly unique and place-based sound that will transport you to another world.

RUPLoops | BRITISH COLUMBIA – FAMILY/HIP HOP

RupLoops is an interactive, live looping performance, using vocal percussion, rhythmic rhymes and an arsenal of eclectic instruments from around the globe. Rup utilizes his diverse skills as a musician to create a pulsating, entertaining and engaging musical experience. With a mix of hip-hop and global sounds, RupLoops' tunes into themes of home, identity, culture, justice, dignity and celebration.

S.G. GOODMAN | KENTUCKY – AMERICANA/ROCK

S.G. Goodman is a powerhouse singer from Western Kentucky whose voice can reach soaring highs and heart-wrenching lows. She started out singing in church three times a week before becoming a celebrated figure in the Murray, KY indie scene. Her passion for social justice shines through in her powerful performances. Don't miss her sophomore album, *Teeth Marks*, released in 2022.

SHANE COOK & THE WOODCHIPPERS | ONTARIO – TRAD MUSIC

Shane Cook & The Woodchippers create a vibrant and energetic sound that combines traditional music, song, and dance of Ontario with elements of folk, Celtic, roots, country, contemporary, and jazz. Led by Canadian and U.S. National fiddle champion Shane Cook, the group features talented multi-instrumentalists, singers, and step dancers who bring their unique flair to every performance.

SIERRA FERRELL | WEST VIRGINIA – ALTERNATIVE/AMERICANA/BUEGRASS

Sierra Ferrell is an extraordinary singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist hailing from the beautiful West Virginia. Her debut album, *Long Time Coming*, is a true masterpiece, showcasing Ferrell's boundless imagination, unparalleled musical dexterity, and unbridled ability to evoke deep and powerful emotions from her listeners. Ferrell's exceptional vocal skills are nothing short of breathtaking, and she will have you hanging on every word and note of her beautifully crafted songs.

SUNNY WAR | CALIFORNIA – FOLK

Sunny War, a Nashville-based singer-songwriter and guitar virtuoso, dropped her fourth album, *Anarchist Gospel*, in February 2023. This album is a wild ride, drawing on a range of genres, including gospel, country blues, folk, rock and roll and avant-garde studio experiments. As a child, Sunny began playing music and developed a love for punk, including the Minutemen and X.

SUSAN O'NEILL | IRELAND – FOLK

Susan O'Neill is an Irish singer-songwriter known for her transcendent voice and audacious personality. Her collaboration album with Mick Flannery, *In The Game*, was the top-selling independent record in Ireland in 2021. Her song "Now You See It" from the EP of the same name won the 2022 RTE Radio 1 'Best Original Folk Song' award. O'Neill is a force to be reckoned with in the world of music.

TAMIKREST | REPUBLIC OF MALI – ISHUMAR ROCK/TUAREG BLUES

Tamikrest (meaning "junction," "connection," "knot," and "coalition" in the Tamasheq language) is a group of members from Mali, Niger, Algeria and France. Though their music takes root in Ishumar Rock or Tuareg Blues, it borrows from various international influences and neighbouring cultures. Tamikrest aims to make Tamasheq poetry and culture accessible to the wider world through their songs.

THE CAMPBELL BROTHERS | NEW YORK – SACRED STEEL GOSPEL

Based in New York and playing for almost 20 years, The Campbell Brothers create a special mix of African American Holiness-Pentecostal music. The band includes Chuck Campbell on pedal steel guitar, Phil Campbell on electric guitar, Carlton Campbell on drums and Daric Bennett on bass guitar. They are joined by Denise Brown, Tiffany Godette and/or Joyce "Cinnamon" Brown.

THE GRAPES OF WRATH | BRITISH COLUMBIA – FOLK ROCK/NEW WAVE

The Grapes of Wrath was a successful band in the 80s and 90s, releasing multiple gold and platinum albums before breaking up in 1992. The original members reunited in 2010 and have been performing ever since. They released a best of compilation in 2012 and their first album of new material in 2013, called *High Road*, named after the street in Kelowna where they first played together over 45 years ago.

THE WACKYDOODLE DANCE PARTY | MANITOBA – FAMILY

The Wackydoodle Dance Party is the ultimate kid-friendly experience! These highly regarded DJs and parents of two bring the energy of the club to deliver world-class sets mixing hip-hop, pop, Motown, funk, soul, deep cuts and mega hits. Get ready to dance, sing along and have a blast with your little ones!

THE WAR ON DRUGS | CALIFORNIA/PENNSYLVANIA – ROCK

The War on Drugs is an electrifying American rock band that's been hailed for their seamless transition from underground to mainstream. Their album, *A Deeper Understanding*, was a smashing success, earning them a 2018 Grammy for Best Rock Album. And their fifth studio album, *I Don't Live Here Anymore*, has been met with critical acclaim, earning them a nomination for a prestigious BRIT Award.

TWO RUNNER | CALIFORNIA - ROOTS

Two Runner is a modern folk duo consisting of songwriter Paige Anderson and fiddle player Emilie Rose. Anderson grew up touring with her family bluegrass band, while Rose has a deep understanding and love for folk music traditions. Together, they bring strong songwriting, vocal harmonies and musicianship on clawhammer banjo, flat-picking guitar and old-time fiddle.

VANCE JOY | AUSTRALIA – FOLK POP

Vance Joy is an Australian indie folk singer-songwriter who began his career playing the Melbourne open-mic scene. He gained success with his catchy folk-pop single "Riptide" which led him to sign with Atlantic Records. Joy released new music in 2021 with the x2 Platinum track "Missing Piece" which landed on his 2022 full-length, *In Our Own Sweet Time*.

WALKING WOLF SINGERS & DANCERS | MANITOBA – INDIGENOUS SINGERS & DANCERS

Walking Wolf Singers & Dancers was established over 20 years ago with the goal of not only performing, but also educating people about Indigenous song and dance. The group promotes pride in the Indigenous community and its traditions. Over the years, they have released seven albums, most recently, *Walking Wolf Singers (Giving Thanks)*.

WHITEHORSE | ONTARIO – COUNTRY/BLUES

Whitehorse is a Canadian music duo from Ontario with a unique sound that blends guitar-heavy, harmony-rich genres. Their latest album, *I'm Not Crying, You're Crying*, fuses classic country music with their signature style. The duo's talents as co-authors and collaborators have earned them five consecutive JUNO Award nominations. Whitehorse last performed at the Festival in 2013.

WILLIAM PRINCE | MANITOBA – COUNTRY/FOLK

William Prince is a Canadian singer-songwriter with a gift for exploring profound questions through simple yet skillful song writing. His exceptional body of work has been widely recognized since winning a JUNO Award, receiving international acclaim and adding depth and dimension that truly sets him apart.

WITCH PROPHET | ONTARIO – JAZZ/HIP HOP/SOUL/R&B

Witch Prophet is an amazing Canadian singer-songwriter who masterfully blends jazz, hip hop, soul and R&B in her music. Her Polaris Prize-nominated album, *DNA Activation*, was a powerful exploration of her Ethiopian and Eritrean heritage, released in 2020. Witch Prophet has just released a new soulful and captivating album called *Gateway Experience* on May 3, 2023.