



JULY 8-12, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WINNIPEG FOLK FEST ANNOUNCES
BIG BLUE @ NIGHT LINE-UP
AND AN UPDATE ON CAMPING...**

Winnipeg MB (May 27, 2009) -- Back for its second year, **Big Blue @ Night** offers an exciting alternative to the main stage line-up at the Winnipeg Folk Festival.

With a program running each evening from Friday to Sunday, this stage introduces music not commonly found at folk music festivals. The intent is to explore the boundaries of folk music, challenge definitions, bring new sounds to the genre, and appeal to a wide-ranging audience.

“Big Blue @ Night gives the festival yet another opportunity to further diversify our programming, introducing artists and our audience to contemporary sounds, pushing the folk genre in new directions,” says Artistic Director Chris Frayer. He added that most artists performing at Big Blue @ Night also appear in daytime workshops. The Big Blue @ Night schedule is:

FRIDAY JULY 10 – 7:00pm to 12:00am

Hey Rosetta!
Gentleman Reg
Bell Orchestre
Special Guest MC/Stunt Clown “Fesso”

SATURDAY JULY 11 – 7:00pm to 12:00am

OKA
Socalled
Dj Logic
Special Guest MC/Stunt Clown “Fesso”

SUNDAY JULY 12 – 7:00pm to 9:30pm

Patrick Watson
Great Lake Swimmers
Special Guest MC/Stunt Clown “Fesso”

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FESTIVAL CAMPGROUND POPULAR – AND SOLD OUT!

Festival Campground passes have once again sold out before the start of the Festival. With a multitude of loyal campers returning each year, and Festival Campground passes capped at 6000, they've become a quick sell-out: "The Festival Campground is a popular place for four-day pass holders, and the demand for passes increases each year. To ensure a good experience for all, we can't expand the campground. We hope to have a better system in place for 2010," says Festival Executive Director Tamara Kater.

Even though Festival Campground passes are sold out, **Quiet Campground passes are still available.** Quiet camping in another designated Birds Hill Park locale offers free shuttle bus, more shelter and shade, and quiet time from midnight to 7:00am – allowing for a good night's sleep and all around great experience. The Quiet Campground can accommodate both tents and RV's.

Price for the Quiet Campground is \$30 until May 31; \$35 until June 30; and \$40 in July. Both the Festival Campground and Quiet Campground will open Wednesday, July 8 at 9:00am so campers can arrive in time for the start of Wednesday night's program featuring Elvis Costello & The Imposters.

LAST CALL FOR EARLY BIRD TICKETS!

Early Bird tickets for this year's Festival are on sale until May 31 at the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store (211 Bannatyne Ave. at Albert St. / 204-231-1377) and Ticketmaster. Four-day passes are \$152 for adults; \$79 for youth (15-17) and seniors; \$10.50 for children (5-14). Day passes for adults are \$54. Admission for Wednesday night's Elvis Costello show must be purchased separately from festival passes. Four-day pass holders can add on for an additional \$20. Regular single-day admission is \$40.

ABOUT THE WINNIPEG FOLK FESTIVAL

Now in its 36th year, the Winnipeg Folk Festival is one of North America's premier outdoor music festivals. The first was held in 1974 in Birds Hill Park as a one-time celebration to mark Winnipeg's 100th anniversary. Today, the operating budget is more than \$3.5 million, and attendance exceeds 62,000 including performers, volunteers and guests. Approximately 250 artists perform on seven stages around the Festival site throughout the weekend. Daytime stages give artists opportunities to jam with each other, exchanging musical styles, stories and inspirations, while giving festival-goers a rare opportunity to see up-close-and-personal glimpses into the musical creative process. In the evening, everyone gathers at the Main Stage to enjoy an eclectic assortment of dynamic music set against the spectacular backdrop of a prairie sunset. Visit www.winnipegfolkfestival.ca for updates, artist bios and additional information.

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