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# HEATHER RANKIN

*The sultry Cape Breton singer/songwriter  
will be performing at the  
Kingsville Folk Music Festival  
which runs from August 10-12.*

**By Dan and  
April Savoie**

Heather Rankin is a singer, songwriter and actor, best known as the youngest member of the multi-platinum selling and multi-award winning musical group, The Rankin Family. The Cape Breton songstress released her first solo album in 2016 and will be performing hits from both her solo works and some family favourites when she comes to the Kingsville Folk Music Festival on Friday, August 10 when she co-headlines alongside Great Big Sea frontman Alan Doyle.

“I don’t think I’ve ever been to Kingsville, but it’s very possible that I was there in the 90’s with my family,” Heather told 519 Magazine. “It’s pretty rare to find places that I haven’t been to in Canada. Over the years we’ve covered a lot of bases. If I didn’t with the entire family, I did with my sisters when we would tour at Christmas time. We certainly would have played in Michigan and Windsor and all those little towns in Ontario. We’ve played all the way up to the north around Dryden, Wawa and Kelowna and all of those little towns.”

Rankin is no stranger to small towns and seems very comfortable playing in places a little off the beaten track. Her family lived and grew up in the small rural community of Mabou on the west coast of Nova Scotia’s Cape Breton

Island – a place that boasts a population of just over 1,000.

Being an East Coast girl, she always knew about the Titanic, which sank in the North Atlantic ocean, not far from her Cape Breton home. Her song and music video for “Titanically,” was written with David Tyson, who is best known for co-writing and producing Alannah Myles’ 1990 chart-topping hit “Black Velvet” (with Christopher Ward). Titanically is the third single from her Juno nominated album A Fine Line, and the Titanic connection hit close to home.

“I really have developed a passion for the Titanic,” she said. “I was just in New York and I was so disappointed that I couldn’t get to the Titanic memorial. It’s pretty fascinating how it captures so much attention even after over 100 years. There have been so many other ships that have sunk off the coast with more people on them, but the Titanic seems to always be the one that people are drawn to. I don’t know if it’s a James Cameron, Celine Dion or Leonardo DiCaprio type of syndrome for others, but for me it has a connection with Nova Scotia.”

The song was inspired by the story of Wallace Hartley, the Titanic’s bandmaster and violinist.

**Danielle Wade as Marian Paroo in  
The Music Man.**

Photo by Cylla Von Tiedemann

His violin case was recovered strapped to his body, buoyed mostly out of the water by his life jacket, and thus preserved in good condition. It was taken to Halifax by the Mackay-Bennett Cable Ship that recovered many of the Titanic's victims in April, 1912. Several newspaper articles listed the items recovered with Hartley, including a "music case." From Halifax, the violin and its case were returned to Hartley's fiancé, Maria Robinson, who had given the violin to him, engraved with their names, as an engagement gift. "Instead of writing a song about that story, we wrote it from the perspective of the violin because there is such an attachment between a musician and an instrument," she revealed. "We imagined that the violin had a soul and tried to capture the grief it must have had being torn from



the hands of the person who cared for it most." Maria, who never married and had no children, left the violin and its case to a bandmaster at a Salvation Army, who gave it to a music teacher, who gave it to a violin pupil. In 2006 it was found in the attic of the pupil's son in England. It was later auctioned for \$1.7 million US dollars in 2013, making it the most expensive Titanic artifact to date. With such a passionate story to tell, the song needed a powerful video to portray the emotion and feelings the song possesses. "We shot all the video footage in one day," she recalled. "We filmed all the indoor footage at the Churchill house in Hantsport, Nova Scotia. It's a beautiful old Victorian home that's been maintained by that community. We also filmed the footage in the mud and then we got into the public pool and we were there

till three o'clock in the morning. It was pretty fascinating for me to film the water footage because I'm not a swimmer and I was jumping in fully clothed in a full length dress into 12 feet of water. It takes a lot of confidence and relaxation to sing underwater when you're not a swimmer. It was really fascinating and I am really pleased with how it turned out." Aside from music and making exciting music videos, Heather has spent a bit of time as an actress on stage and screen. She's been in several productions including a guest spot on the CBC television program Mr. D with Canadian comedian Gerry Dee, as well as a handful of theatrical productions. "I did Mr. D with Alan Frew from Glass Tiger," she said. "We were both members of a band and the secretary Trudy in the show was our former bandmate. It was pretty funny. I've actually had more stage experience than I have film experience and I recently performed in a couple of plays at Neptune Theatre here in Halifax in the Daniel McCarver shows. I love the theatre - it's fun. Film is

fun too but my experience is very limited. I do enjoy the process and I would love to have a more in-depth experience." Her years as a member of The Rankin Family have given her a unique perspective and plenty of experience making captivating music and music videos, but she's most proud of her album A Fine Line, which allowed her to express herself in a new and more personal way. "Initially I felt a bit naked putting my personal feelings out there," she explained. "It was also very liberating at the same time and

it's becoming more and more so as I continue down this path. I'm able to be more of myself and I'm feeling more comfortable in my own skin." When Heather comes to Kingsville she'll be coming off a five-concert series of kitchen party styled shows at the Neptune Theatre in Halifax and hopefully she'll bring that down home Cape Breton fun when she hits the stage at the Kingsville Folk Music Festival. Tickets for the Kingsville Folk Music Festival are on sale online at [www.kingsvillefolkfest.org](http://www.kingsvillefolkfest.org).



Heather Rankin in the mud in the Titanically music video

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# After 40 Trips Around The Sun

# TOTO

## The Band is Finally Making the Trip to Windsor

Our interview with original keyboardist Steve Porcaro

By Dan and April Savoie

Few ensembles in the history of recorded music have individually or collectively had a larger imprint on pop culture than the members of Toto. Since the band was formed in 1977, Toto have released 14 studio albums together, and individually the band members can be heard on an astonishing 5,000 albums including work by Michael Jackson, Elton John, Steely Dan, Pink Floyd, Aretha Franklin and Neil Diamond.

One of those members, Steve Porcaro was an essential part of Toto's hits "Africa," "Hold the Line" and "Rosanna", as well as for his contributions to Michael Jackson's Thriller album. He wrote the massive hit Human Nature for Jackson during the recording of Toto's biggest album Four.

We spoke with Steve about his musical history and Toto's upcoming show at The Colosseum in Windsor later this month.

**The first Toto album still stands well even after 40 years. What do you think makes that and many other Toto albums so timeless?**

I think it's the

musicality, the fact that we all love pop music and that we still love a good hook and hit record. The trick was to make it without lowering ourselves just to get a hit record.

**The synths are so out front in songs like Africa and Rosanna. How much were you a part of the creation of those?**

A huge part of it actually - especially the Rosanna solo which was my baby you know. It was me really wanting to show everybody what I could do and David Paiche was right there with me the whole time. It was me dictating how it went and arranging it and writing things out for the song. All of the guys in the band are such incredible musicians and they're such great writers. They can come in and do a guitar solo in two minutes then it's amazing. I've never been a good improviser. But what I love to do is compose and show what synthesizers could do in certain hands. So I felt like we pulled that off and Roseanna and then Africa was

more of the same kind of thing.

**A synth solo in a hit record! That's not very common thing. So it must have been fun to create those little solo pieces.**

I grew up hearing a lot of synth solos and things like Emerson Lake and Palmer and Yes; those kinds of bands.

**Looping and various digital technologies are commonplace now, but back when Toto was rising up the charts it wasn't as common.**

No not at all. When we first started, especially with the first album, it was all recorded on tape. I remember the day at the studio in Studio 55 where they had one of the very first examples of automated mixing in there. It was a NECAM mixing console and it was all just brand new at the time. We still recorded 24 tracks in a conventional way, but that was

when the technology of today got its start.

**Are you like a guitarist? Do you have a huge collection of keyboards and synths?**

Yup I'm afraid so. It's really kind of amassed into quite a collection over the years. Having said that though, I'm very much a fan of the new technology with a lot of the plug-ins and software versions that are offered now. As a songwriter I'm more interested in output than being authentic as far as my synthesizers go. I love these new plug-ins and the possibilities and the fact that you can hit save and recall things. I still have my modular synths hooked up and I still use them all the time, but it's kind of like catching lightning in a bottle. You've got to hit record all the time because you may never get it quite like that again. There's no save button on the old stuff.

**What brought you back to the band after being away for so long?**

My brother Mike got sick. The band had kind of put it all the rest. He kinda' ended Toto right

then. They were just a touring entity at that point. People here in the States didn't hear from Toto for a very long time, but they were very busy. They just gave up on the States and were still selling out places like Budokan regularly. So they just focused on that. But just after Mike got sick, they asked me if I'd be interested in maybe just doing one summer run. I said sure you know to benefit my brother Mike and then help out his family with some of the medical finances. They just kept asking me if I would do the next summer and the next summer and the next summer and it was great to be able to go back and forth and do my scoring thing for a while and then go on the road with Toto..

**I wanted to chat about your stuff with Michael Jackson. What an honour that must have been to work with Michael.**

Absolutely. He was an incredibly talented guy and very approachable in the early days. He was just an amazing talent to work with in the studio. You know just incredible what he brought to the table.

**What was it like producing the synths for The Girl Is Mine off Thriller with Michael and**

**TOTO**  
The Colosseum  
Windsor  
Thur., Aug. 23  
ticketmaster.ca



## Paul McCartney?

It was just great being part of it all. You know I was there at the cutting session and the tracking session with Paul and Michael. It was a crazy, crazy day. I wasn't on that session because you know I'm an old guy. I do most of my parts after everyone has gone away, but just being part of the whole thing was amazing for me. I probably worked on every song on *Thriller* a couple times, but Quincy Jones was always having other people also work on it, so someone was always replacing someone's parts at the same time someone was replacing your parts, but it just felt great to be part of the team. I wanted to keep my stuff on *PYT* and *Beat It*.

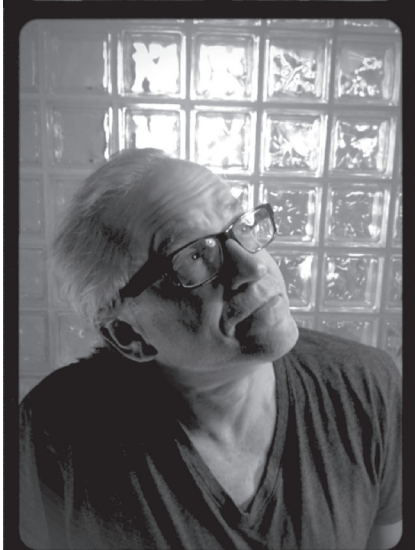
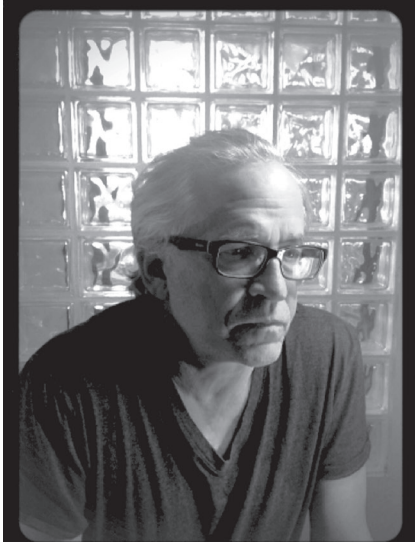
### Can you tell me about *Human Nature* and how that came about?

I was on my way to the studio when *Toto* was mixing *Four*. We were mixing our very last song that night, *Africa*. It was the very last song to mix. I was on my way to the studio when I wanted to stop by and see my daughter at her mom's house. She had a rough day at school because some boy had bothered her because she fell off a slide. The boy hit her and she was telling me about it. She just kept asking me why and it just kind of stuck in my head. All of a sudden the title *Human Nature* pops in my head. Anyway, that was in my head and when I got to the studio, the guys were all in the booth putting up the mix to *Africa*. I just went into the studio where all our equipment was and I pretty much wrote the verse and choruses to *Human Nature* in one sitting right there and boom, it just came.

### With such a large *Toto* catalog what can we expect to hear when you're in Windsor?

The thing is we've been doing all of these kind of co-headlining things with other bands so that we could get the chance to play in bigger places and hopefully reach more people. But the problem with that is that you have to do shorter and shorter sets and you end up with a greatest hits kind of set and then they want to get the hell off the stage. This time we'll be doing our European, which is a full two-plus hours, with some very deep cuts. So it's really a concert for *Toto* fans. Of course all the hits will be there, but there will be some new stuff and some very deep cuts that we're very excited to share with everybody.

*Toto* comes to *The Colosseum* for one show at *Caesars Windsor* on August 23.



# WHO THE F K IS SOUTH RIVER SLIM?

By Dan Savoie

South River Slim loves to have fun with his music and it shows greatly in his live shows. The Windsor music scene regular headlined the *Bluestowne Stage* at this year's *Bluesfest Windsor* and stole the crowd away from mainstage headliners like *Colin James* and *Pat Travers*. He's headed to *Hogs For Hospice* to support classic rockers *Cheap Trick* at *Seacliff Park Amphitheatre* in *Leamington* on Friday, August 4.

Slim grew up in, you guessed it, *South River* as *Sean Rivers*. It's a small village near *Algonquin Park* in the *Almaguin Highlands* region of the *Parry Sound District* of *Ontario*. The small town wasn't big enough to hold his dreams, so the young musician packed his bags and ended up in the *519* in *Windsor* where he adopted the name of his home town.

Here, he's enthralled audiences with his unique blend of blues, rock, country and

old rhythm using such tools as a *Hohner harmonica*, *tube amps*, a *Green Bullet microphone*, *jumbo-sized acoustic guitars* and *old school resonators*. That's an eclectic mix that begs the question asked on his new maxi-single CD cover *Who the Fuck is South River Slim?*

"You tell me," Slim laughs during an interview with *519 Magazine*. "I don't really know myself. I suppose that's why that question is out there. I have all this good stuff coming up for me at the moment and the new CD *Who the Fuck is South River Slim?* is just the start. I'm just a country boy who moved to the big city and is enjoying all the things that I can do with music. I enjoy exposing people to the blues - and not just the blues they think they know, but also the roots of the blues, which has a little bit of country. For me it's all about rockabilly rock 'n roll. So I'm still finding out who the fuck *South River Slim* is. I'm hoping other people will help find out too."

His current singles *Buckle Up Baby* and the *Under The Soil About Six Feet* have generated numerous plays on *Spotify* and are quickly becoming live favourites. They are featured on the new maxi-single CD and may end up on his forthcoming album that he's been working towards releasing.

"I write stuff constantly," he noted. "I have notebooks and everything with me all the time. I carry notebooks with me wherever I go. I've got song ideas piled up everywhere and sometimes, just sometimes, they age like a fine wine."

*South River Slim* has a great line of t-shirts bearing his questionable slogan. Fans can grab them at many of his shows throughout the area.



Photo by Dan Savoie



Having 15 minutes of summer fun  
with Hogs For Hospice header  
Rick Nielsen of

By April and  
Dan Savole

**Cheap Trick**

Photo by David McClister

Cheap Trick are an indisputable American institution, beloved around the globe since 1974 for their instantly identifiable, hugely influential, brand of pop rock 'n' roll. The band – Robin Zander (vocals, rhythm guitar), Rick Nielsen (lead guitar), Tom Petersson (bass guitar), and Daxx Nielsen (drums) – are true pioneers with an unparalleled streak of certifiably classic tunes, from “He’s A Whore,” “California Man” and “Dream Police” to “Surrender,” “I Want You To Want Me” and the worldwide No. 1 hit single, “The Flame.”

Having released three Big Machine Records’ albums in the last three years – BANG ZOOM CRAZY...HELLO (2016), WE’RE ALL ALRIGHT (2017) and CHRISTMAS CHRISTMAS (2017) – Cheap Trick are as vital today as ever. 2016

saw Cheap Trick’s long-awaited induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The induction honored both the band and the pioneering sound that has earned them total record sales of well in excess of 20 million, featured appearances and more than 40 international GOLD and PLATINUM certifications. 2017’s WE’RE ALL ALRIGHT! was yet another undisputed triumph for the band as was the album’s first single, “Long Time Coming.”

This year the band released their new single “The Summer Looks Good On You” in May and according to guitarist Rick Nielsen, the band is releasing its next record on the same day the band is coming to Leamington’s Hog For Hospice festival on Friday, August 3. We spoke with the always humorous guitarist.



**Yesterday was the first day of summer and this time out, you guys are all about your new single “The Summer Looks Good On You” - it’s definitely a fun song for the season, and it must be a really fun song on the tour.**

Oh yeah, It kinda coordinated itself, didn’t it?

**My big question is what part of summer looks good on you?**

Well, by the sound of your voice, everything.

**Do you have any great summer memories?**

Well, usually I’m on tour every summer. Last year, we were in Europe around this time. We were in Switzerland, Germany, Italy and England. So last year was a good one.

**It must have been beautiful over there?**

Oh yeah, it’s a great part of the world. I have a granddaughter now. She turned 13 over in Zurich, Switzerland when we were there.

**With a new single out, does that mean there’s a new album in the works?**

We’ve been working so hard on it and we’re almost finished. Just yesterday we worked on a second song with Steve Jones from The Sex Pistols and of course his radio show Jonesy’s Jukebox. He played guitar with us on that new song. It’s a good one.

**So are you thinking it will be out later this year or early next year?**

We’re saying it comes out on August 3 – whoa, that’s the time that we are playing up there for you.

**Yes, your headlining for Hogs for Hospice in Leamington.**

**Have you ever been in Leamington before?**

Is it Leamington or “Lemington”?

**It’s called Leamington.**

Okay, well obviously I haven’t been there if I don’t know the name.

**You’ve been to Windsor and Detroit before.**

Yeah I have, I hear Leamington is like a suburb or something like that.

**It’s a smaller town about 30 minutes outside of Windsor.**

Oh yeah. Well we know one thing that’s for sure - mayor John Paterson is a troublemaker.

Oh April will we see you there?

**Oh definitely. I’ll be screaming.**

Will you be screaming at us or with us?

**With you.**

Oh okay, so on Friday night August 3rd. We’ll see you there.

I can’t wait. I’ll learn how to say Leamington by then.

**They are known for their tomatoes in Leamington.**

Oh I thought you were going to say you were going to throw tomatoes at me.

**You guys aren’t like alot of the bands from the 70s and 80s - you still have that love for recording and releasing albums.**

Well yeah, we’re too dumb to quit.

**Obviously you still have a good time, which is awesome.**

Oh yeah. Well I hope so. I hope to see you with your Harley – that could be fun.

**I hope I get one by the time of the show.**

Well if you laugh like that, you’ll get something! That’s for sure.

**Your son Daxx has been with the band for eight years.**

**What’s it like having your son in the band.**

Oh that’s who that guy is. I wondered who that was. I turned around and there was a different guy there.

**He looked familiar did he?**

Yeah, yeah... He played with us back when Bun E. had a back operation about 18 years ago. It was an Aerosmith tour. At that time he was drumming with Dick Dale for three years and then Brandi Carlisle and then did some touring with

Maroon 5 over in Australia and New Zealand. So he’s been around. He wasn’t waiting to work with us. I didn’t see him for a few years and then there he is back on the drums as a member of the band.

**It must be nice to have family with you as you travel?**

Oh yeah. Well you know how it is when you go on vacation with your family.

**Obviously your home was very musical when he was growing up?**

I never said “turn that thing down”. So he turned it up so loud, it affected my hearing and now I can’t hear.

**Was there a point when you saw the talent in him (Daxx)?**

You know he’s classically trained on piano, and um, that’s probably why he moved to drums. He can actually play

every instrument. I think he’s trying to get my job - that little creep.

**Two years ago Cheap Trick was finally inducted to the Hall of Fame.**

Has it been two years already? That was such a long time coming. Hey that’s another song of ours “Long Time Coming” from We’re All Alright. That song was our interpretation of Slade and MC5, AC/DC and band we really like.

**You have a great history with KISS, including Gene’s solo album. Are you guys still friends?**

Yup.

**Do you still get out the KISS records every once in a while?**

Oh yeah. You know, KISS wouldn’t have it any other way. They want us to buy the records that we throw out the to the

audience every night. How do you think Gene can afford all that stuff he has?

**So this year I can’t believe you’re turning 70, but your still look like a rock star.**

Well I was born on a leap year, so I’m only 17 and a half.

**No wonder you look so good. You have very distinctive look.**

I do? You know I love being Eye Candy for the band. And then I can get a date with you.

**Maybe...**

Uh oh... Silence.

**I’m not sure how my husband would like that.**

Well, do like the rest of us do, don’t tell him.... I can’t wait to get up there in Leamington, Ontario, Canada, Hogs for Hospice Motorcycle Rally! You better bring your Harley or your Moped. Actually, just bring yourself and it’ll all be good.



Photo by Kim Gisborne, Cheap Trick UK/Europe Newsletter

**Cheap Trick**  
**Hogs For Hospice**  
**Leamington**  
**Fri., Aug. 3**  
hogsforhospice.com



# ERIC ETHRIDGE

## **The Diagnosis: Health, Wellness and Kickin' Ass**

**By Dan and April Savoie**

Photo by Theresa Chalmers

While most country artists try to kick a little ass, Eric Ethridge will not only kick your behind, but he'll adjust it for you the very next day. The Sarnia-based up-and-coming country star actually leads a double-life as a chiropractor by day and musician by night. It's been a way of life for him for the past couple years as he launches his national music career.

"I decided to be an artist at the end of 2013 while I was still in chiropractic school in Toronto," he told 519 Magazine. "I started the process of writing, getting stuff recorded and building my presence online while in the middle of treating patients, during exams and throughout clinical rotations. I've been trying to tackle both at once. I work in a few clinics and treat patients during the day and then, whenever possible, I'm performing, playing music and visiting Nashville a couple times a month."

Eric started to gain momentum in 2015 after the release of a series of orchestra country-pop covers, one of which garnered him a mention in Rolling Stone magazine. In 2016 he won the Canadian Country Music Discovery Program, which catapulted his career to new heights. He's since released three radio and iTunes charting singles and his debut EP just came out last month.

Eric teamed up with Juno award-winning producer and songwriter Brian Howes to produce six of the seven songs on the EP. Howes is known for his production work with Hedley, Nickelback and a handful of other rock acts. He's also worked with several American Idol alumni and produced/co-wrote "Two is Better Than One" by Boys Like Girls featuring Taylor Swift.

"All these things have kind of happened in the last two years," Eric added. "It will actually be two years this month that I recorded the first song "Between Me and You" in Nashville. The last six songs were recorded with Brian in Los

Angeles. Brian is a great producer; he's won Juno Awards and did every single Hedley song before they went down in flames – which had absolutely nothing to do with him or his work. He took me on as his first country project and I couldn't be happier with the results."

For his 2018 summertime single, Eric selected California from the EP. It's a remake of the 2001 Wave rock hit.

"The key to being an artist is to not sound like everybody else," he explained. "When we recorded the songs for the EP, we were trying to push boundaries and push the envelope, but still make it catchy enough that radio will want to play it and people want to listen to it. I think we succeeded."

As his star keeps rising, so does his fan base and with that comes a new level of stardom he never anticipated – a fanatical female following.

"I think it's flattering for sure, but I never expected that at all," he laughed. "Growing up I never really had that mentality. You know I wasn't always the guy that girls were chasing down the street or anything like that. I know it can be a little like that now, but I still think it's funny. If the fans enjoy the music and come to show, that's fantastic. But yeah, I don't let things like that get in my head."

Catch Eric on tour at the Boot Hill Country Jamboree in Bothwell on Aug. 4, Chaps and Spurs in Windsor on Aug. 17 and the Strike Cancer Out fundraiser in Belmont on Aug. 25.



# Coffee House Combo Bringing Jazz Back to Windsor

By Dan Savoie

Windsor was once known as a great city for jazz music. It was played in a wide variety of venues around town for decades. Legendary clubs like The Rendezvous Tavern, The Top Hat, Serious Moonlight Café, Traiteurs Bistro and Elmwood Casino Hotel were the liveliest spots in town and each of them housed many famous and travelling musicians for more than half a century from the 1920s to the 70s. There was even a popular jazz festival in the mid-90s, but much like Mack The Knife, the jazz scene slowly dissipated over the years.

In the last few years there has been a new fusion of jazz musician – one that is eager to bring the music form back to life by infusing it with other sounds. These artists want to challenge perceptions of the music and create an atmosphere for those who want to experiment and let their modern jazz flag fly. Leading

that pathway is The Coffee House Combo, a group of six young musicians who've spent the last three years endlessly promoting their enjoyment of jazz and its place in modern music. The combo has introduced many new fans to the world of jazz through its unique blend of jazz mixed with other styles like soul, R&B and even hip hop.

“We tend to venture outside of the Jazz style from time to time for a few reasons,” says pianist Andrew Adoranti. “It’s always nice to be able to play something new and different, whether that is soul, R&B, or Hip-Hop. A variety is necessary to keep things fresh and exciting onstage. Also, it is no secret that Jazz music is not the most audience-friendly genre. In an effort to play something that all people can relate to, we try to perform things that are more well-known and accessible - however not without our own jazzy flair.”

The band prides itself on keeping things new and fresh with its interpretations by

placing a great deal of emphasis on instrumentation and arrangements. The jazz element is actually secondary in many ways. One of their avenues for accomplishing this is a weekly jam session at Phog Lounge in Windsor every Sunday.

“Jam sessions are part of the jazz culture,” adds percussionist Vanessa Harnish. “It is an opportunity for musicians in the community to get together, try new ideas in a performance setting, and most importantly, collaborate. It is also a great way to get to know other musicians who are older and younger than us. As well, these jam sessions and having a weekly gig have helped us improve faster than we would have just practicing on our own.”

The jam sessions have helped The Coffee House Combo grow their musical style and have actually enhanced their passion for the jazz art form.

“I think there are a number of things that makes the Jazz

genre attractive to us.” Andrew explains. “First, it’s a genre that demands a high degree of focus and ability. In this sense, it provides a consistent intellectual and technical challenge for us as players. Second, Jazz is always changing. Jazz has varied greatly over the years, ranging from Bebop to Post-bop to Neo-Soul. Each one of these particular sub-categories is exciting by itself, but I think the true draw for us, when it comes to Jazz, is the sheer breadth of which the genre spans. The third and last point that makes us want to play Jazz is the flexibility of the music. There are not many other styles of music where each member of a band is allowed to consistently solo and express his or her own ideas within a piece of music (consider the last time you heard a classic rock

bass solo). Furthermore, when covering songs in a jazz style, one is encouraged to change the chords, rhythm, time signature or anything else that comes to mind. Anything is fair game in Jazz. In summary, we like jazz because it never gets boring.”

The band formed three years ago, with the current lineup existing for the last two years. The band consists of saxophonist Sebastian Bachmeier, multi-

instrumentalist Austin DiPietro, bassist Marko Rozic, and vocalist Natalie Culmone, as well as pianist Andrew Adoranti and percussionist Vanessa Harnish.

The band is currently writing and recording original music which it hopes to release in the next year. Many song samples can be heard on their SoundCloud page.

**Coffee House Combo**  
Phog Lounge,  
Windsor  
Sunday's at 9pm  
phoglounge.com



The Coffee House Combo is (from left to right): Marko Rozic (bass); Austin DiPietro (trumpet); Natalie Culmone (vocals); Sebastian Bachmeier (saxophone); Andrew Adoranti (keyboards); Vanessa Harnish (drums). Photo by Khoa Nguyen



# Nick Burrows TEMPTED

By ROCK N ROLL

By Dan Savoie

This spring, Windsor-born Nick Burrows had one of his dreams come true when he sat behind his drum kit and gazed at thousands of fans from one of the most prestigious stages in the world - Madison Square Garden. He was there with his bandmates supporting a sold-out show with Bon Jovi.

“When you combine a rock and roll hall of famer and the world’s most famous arena, Madison Square Garden, it really can’t get much better,” Nick told 519 Magazine. “It was an amazing opportunity and it says a lot about Jon that he gave us the opportunity. He and his crew also did everything to make sure that we had a great night and were

successful. Meeting Jon was also incredible. He immediately put us at ease and right before hitting the stage he looked at us and said, “well, you certainly look like you know where you’re playing”. We received an overwhelming response from the crowd and from Bon Jovi’s management and crew. It was truly a dream come true.”

Nick is talking about his New York based band Tempt, who’ve had moderate success in the Big Apple playing good old-fashioned rock ‘n roll. The band was the first act signed to the Rock Candy record label and their 2016 debut CD was mixed by Michael Wagener (Ozzy Osbourne, Metallica) and Mario

McNulty (David Bowie).

He’s actually a third generation drummer. His father is Jeff Burrows, drummer for Canadian/Australian band The Tea Party and his grandfather, John Burrows, played drums with Bobby Curtola in the 1960s. The family has always been rooted in Windsor and the drumming always began early.

“Our family listened to music non-stop,” Nick remembered. “The radio would always be on with a wide variety of artists playing constantly, from Zeppelin to The Smashing Pumpkins or Duran Duran to Alvin and the Chipmunks singing The Beatles. It was never forced on me, but it was always around and left to be discovered or not. It was a thread that seemed to always be present in our family’s life.”



Nick Burrows (left) and Tempt with Bon Jovi at Madison Square Garden

The MSG show is one for the family history books. Jeff streamed the show on his Facebook page and Nick and his brothers in Tempt have been singing praises for Bon Jovi ever since. It’s a big deal for a family that has spent more than 60 years dedicating itself to music.

“I have always admired my dad,” Nick said. “He showed us by example with his work ethic, his focus, his eagerness to take on new challenges and his unconditional love and support for his family. He is a master at the drums but he’s shown me how to be a good person as well.”

Tempt are just at the beginning of their rock ‘n roll journey, but

they’re poised and ready for the future.

“Rock seems to be making a comeback with bands like “The Struts” and “Greta Van Fleet” so we are eager to keep moving forward and creating,” he added. “In the end, we want people dancing to our music and screaming our melodies and lyrics. At our Madison Square Garden Show, Zach said, “Rock is not dead” and that really has resonated with people. There will always be a new generation, and we are it.”

Tempt is Zach Allen (vocals), Harrison Marcello (guitar), Chris Gooden (bass) and Nick Burrows on drums.



Photo by John Wagner

Tallan Noble Latz has been playing guitar and dominating the stage for the last 11 years. Believe it or not, the recent high

school graduate is only 17-years-old!

He will be performing at Olde Walkerville Theatre for two full

# ALL FOR THE LOVE OF GUITAR

By Dan and April Savoie

shows and a guitar clinic on August 24 and 25. One of them is a classic rock themed set where he'll be joined by several local musicians, while the other will feature a blues flavoured show topped off with a selection of Stevie Ray Vaughn's greatest hits.

"I'm super excited that I get to have two completely different shows," Tallan told 519 Magazine. "Friday we're doing a guitar mayhem session with AC/DC, Aerosmith, Led Zeppelin and maybe a little REO Speedwagon - that's just Friday night. Saturday is completely different. That night it's all blues with two completely different sets. The first one is called Channeling The Blues which is themed after a painting that world-renowned artist Ron Sutchiu did of me a few years ago which features me, Stevie Ray Vaughan and Jimi Hendrix. The second set is going to be all Stevie Ray Vaughan. It's going

to have some of his greatest hits and some of my favorite songs that he played. So we're going to be doing that. We also have the guitar clinic earlier in the day. With those shows and a guitar clinic, there's a lot of cool things happening and I'm really excited for it."

Tallan rose to fame after appearing on America's Got Talent in 2009, but by that point he had already shared the stage with music industry notables like Les Paul, Buddy Guy and Jackson Browne and fronted a band named after him. It's an affair with the guitar that began at the age of five when he watched a video of Joe Satriani and told his dad that he wanted to be a guitarist.

"I don't know what it is, but

there's something about the guitar that just really drew me in and I wanted to try it for myself," He said. "Ever since my dad got me my first guitar, I've been playing all the time and

I haven't put it down. I fell in love with it and I can't stop playing."

Tallan will be joined by four local musicians for the Friday night show at the Olde Walkerville Theatre: harmonica player Gilles Provost from The 519 Band, concert pianist Benjamin Goldstien, frontman Rick Labonté from Windsor's The Formula and The Blues Side and guitarist Michael Hereford from British Beat 66.

It will be a weekend of guitar playing that Windsor won't forget. Tickets start at \$30.

**Tallan Noble Latz**  
**Olde Walkerville Theatre, Windsor**  
**Aug. 24-25**  
 oldewalkervilletheatre.com



## 72 Year-Old Drummer Roger Earl Will Sit Behind The Drums For Three Bands At London Bluesfest



Drummer Roger Earl is a bit of a rock 'n roll icon. As a member of Savoy Brown and Foghat, he's travelled the world since 1968 performing Savoy Brown hits like Train To Nowhere and I'm Tired and Foghat hits like Slow Ride, Fool For The City and I Just Want to Make Love to You.

In a unique situation, Roger will be in London, Ontario at London Bluesfest on Friday, August 24 and he might be performing in three different bands on the same night - Foghat, his solo band Earl & The Agitators, and possibly a guest spot with Savoy Brown - it's certainly going to be a night Roger Earl fans will never forget.

"Along with Foghat, I'm also an occasional member of Savoy Brown as well," Roger explained in an interview with 519 Magazine. "Whenever we do shows together I'll get up and jam a couple of songs with Kim Simmonds and Kim will get up and play a couple of songs with

us. Kim and I have always remained good friends even though I left the band in 1971. We've been doing shows together and it's been a lot of fun. Kim also played on the last Foghat studio album."

For fans of 70s rock, both Foghat and Savoy Brown are legacy bands - tried and true rock 'n roll on an arena rock level. It was a time when rock reigned supreme and pulled its influences from the massive 1960s music scene, especially in England.

"It was a great time to be in music," Roger recalled. "There was a fantastic music scene in London with the Stones, the Who and the Yardbirds - it was an exciting time to be a music

fan. When I was a bit younger I used to go to the Marquee Club in London and see a band called Cyril Davies and His Rhythm & Blues All Stars. Also around that time, a lot of American blues artists were coming over to London so we got to see Muddy Waters and Willie Dixon when they came over. It was a big influence on me."

At 72 years old, Roger is showing no signs of slowing down. He says he practices his drumming on a regular basis and he enjoys jamming with his friends in Earl & The Agitators, making an occasional appearance at Savoy Brown shows with his old pals, and of course his duties behind the drums in Foghat.

"I sit down on my drums and

my practice pads for at least an hour every day when I'm on the road," Roger revealed. "I practice in my hotel room. In fact I've got complaints before, so this time they're supposed to put me on the ground floor so I don't annoy the neighbors. Occasionally they'll put me

above somebody else who's probably trying to get to sleep early and it can be an issue from time to time. I enjoy playing you know."

Catch Roger when he comes to the 519 at London Bluesfest on Friday, August 24 for an unforgettable night of music.



Photo by Marko Shark



## A Little Bit of **MAGIC** with Darcy Oake

More than 200 million viewers tuned in to Britain's Got Talent in 2014 to witness the unveiling of an electrifying new illusionist named Darcy Oake. The Winnipeg born magician traveled to the UK to participate in the show and life has been a roller coaster ride ever since. He brings his bag of tricks to The Colosseum on Thursday, August 16 for two shows.

Inspired by classic sleight of hand techniques, Darcy transports the crowd to another dimension with exhilarating visuals and logic-defying exploits.

"With the Internet and technology it forces magicians to be one step ahead of the game," he told 519 Magazine in a phone interview from South Africa. "People watch things in slow motion and they watch things over and over to try to find the solution, so

I think it makes magicians stay ahead of the curve and be as sharp as they can. I wouldn't say the expectation is far greater than they were back in the 80s. It's all based on everyday patterns that people expect and magicians sort of capitalize on that. We sort of take you on a journey. So it's harder to fool people because the answers are more readily available, but I think it's that much more special when you do fool them."

From sleight of hand to death-defying escapades, this master magician grabbed the world's attention, ushering in an exciting new era of an age-old art form.

"I tend to look at old books, look at old illusionists - the original guys - and find out what they were doing and maybe put a different spin on it to bring it into today's culture," he explained of his craft. "I find myself looking back into a sort of turn of the century era and draw inspiration from it. I try to gain experience and knowledge from those guys and their ideas."

After being baffled by an accidental card trick his father showed him at seven years old, Darcy delved into the craft.

"I was absolutely blown away," he remembered. "I was so excited and I begged him for months to tell me how he did it and he wouldn't tell me. Finally, five weeks later I learned that it was a complete accident and it just happened to work out. There was no plan of action, no trick, it just happened to work out. I will never forget that feeling. I want to be able to do that to other people. If that never happened - if that trick never worked out - I wouldn't have been bitten by the bug and I wouldn't be where I am today."

He's gone on to perform throughout Europe, from Paris to London, and across North America, including New York and Las Vegas.

Darcy brings his flashy magic act to The Colosseum in Windsor for two shows on Thursday, August 16. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.

**DARCY  
OAKE**

**The Colosseum  
Windsor  
Thur., Aug. 16  
ticketmaster.ca**

Story by Dan and April Savoie

Photo by Christie Goodwin

## 10 FUN QUESTIONS WITH...

**Without using the word. What is your definition of fun?**

My definition of that word is, Sitting with friends and instruments and talking and playing music together.

**What's the most fun you've had in the last 24 hours?**

I went for a lovely 45 minute walk with my wife.

**What is more fun - Chocolate or whipped Cream?**

Chocolate more than 70 percent. A Nice dark chocolate. That'll do it.

**What was the most fun you had watching a movie.**

I loved Forrest Gump back in that day because it's so much a part of my generation of the 60s and all of the puns and the joyful time that Forrest Gump had that Tom Hanks had doing that. I loved it and laughed pretty hard. **When was the last time you**

**were made fun of?**

My wife makes fun of me all the time in a beautiful playful way. She knows my idiosyncrasies and we laugh about that. So the last time was with my beloved enjoying some of my foibles.

**Have you ever had fun in church?**

Yes. My sister goes to a Baptist church in Winnipeg and I was raised in a Protestant one - but I did go to a lot of Baptists along the way. And so I sometimes get up to that church and there's lots of music. It's a joyous time. Church can, and I believe should be, fun.

**What's more fun, a mother-in-law or going to the dentist? Definitely a mother-in-law.**

**So what is the most fun you've had with your clothes on?**

Getting on a stage and sharing my music with an audience.

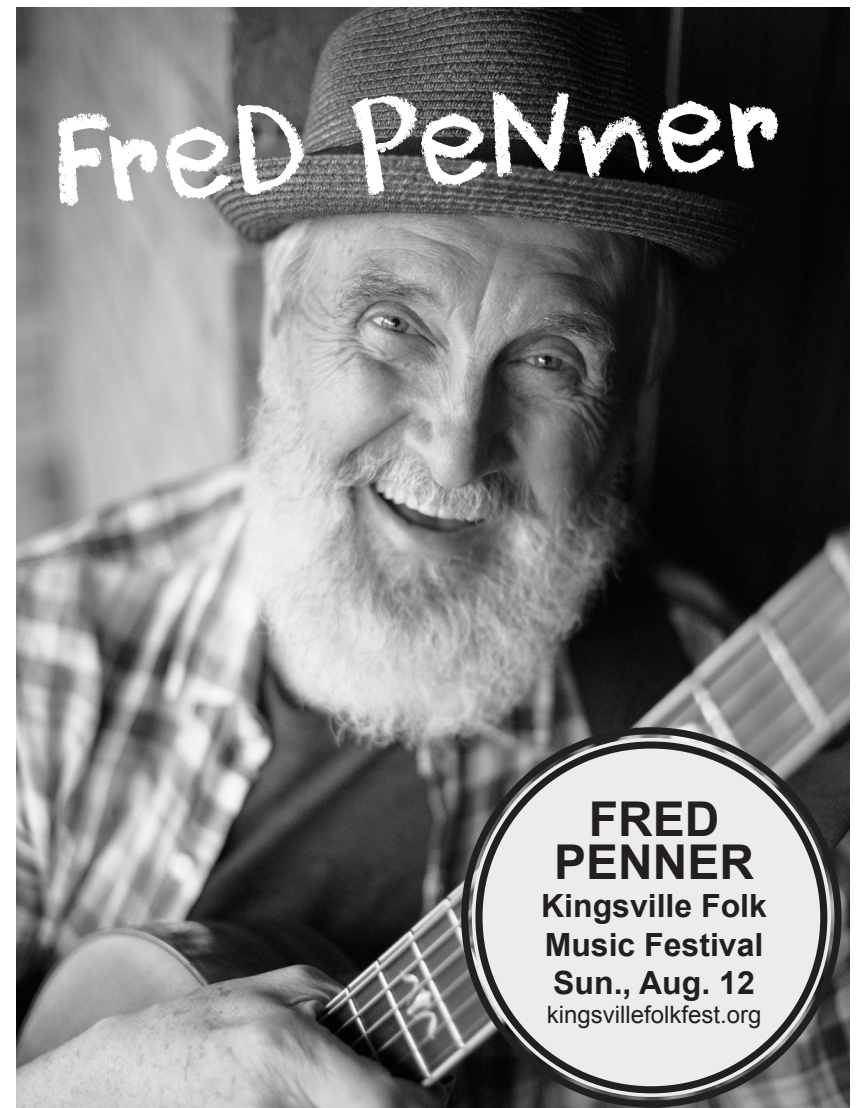
**What is the most fun you've had with your clothes off?**

Well swimming. You know doing a skinny dip in L.A. in a lake - that's fun.

**Does being a famous Canadian singer make you a fun person?**

I was a fun person before that. I've always been, I think, a fun kind of person. My attitude to life is very optimistic and positive and I try my best to bring that energy to the audience. I did not assume some other character that is the Fred Penner you see on stage. I mean basically what you see is what you get. And I like that I'm the positive likable person and that I don't have to change my shirt or my shoes to get up on stage to do what I do.

*Catch Fred at the Kingsville Folk Music Festival on Aug. 12.  
www.fredpenner.com*



**FRED  
PENNER**  
Kingsville Folk  
Music Festival  
Sun., Aug. 12  
kingsvillefolkfest.org

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