



## **2013 East Coast Music Week Showcasing Artist Information**

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# Bluebird North Showcase



## Charlie A'Court

If you go down to the crossroads of roots and soul, you'll find singer, songwriter and guitarist Charlie A'Court, whose honest purpose in life is to connect people, one emotion at a time. Charlie A'Court has walked the line between blues and adult contemporary and is synonymous with impassioned performances that grip an audience the very moment he takes the stage.



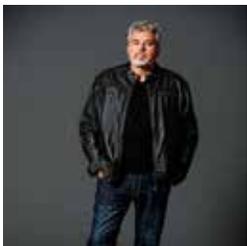
## Chris Kirby

He's a witty, spitey, pasty white kid from the woods of Newfoundland whose style is simply addictive. With his new record, *Wonderizer*, Chris Kirby delivers old school funk to the masses. Banging out his tunes on his wurlitzer and singing as if the fate of his own mother hangs on every word, Kirby fuses the modern styles of John Mayer and Mayer Hawthorne, along with a hefty dose of Stevie Wonder's vintage funk and soul sound. Chris Kirby and his band The Marquee deliver a fun, high-energy live performance every night, and his funky grooves spread throughout crowds like wildfire.



## Dave Carroll

Dave Carroll is an award winning singer-songwriter from Halifax. He began his music career with Sons of Maxwell and has also been enjoying success as a solo artist. His ability to extract the essence of a message and craft into song is a rare gift attracts fans of all ages while his sense of humour and warm stage presence makes each live experience memorable.



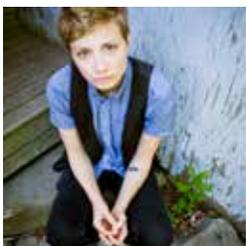
## John Gracie

John Gracie has toured the globe with his music, from Tokyo to Manhattan. He is currently enjoying the success of his 14th album, *Live at the Flamingo*, A Bennett/Sinatra Salute. He has received many international music awards and is an audience favourite. He has been featured on international radio and TV.



## Kim Wempe

Kim Wempe has a fight in her. From the second she opens her mouth, it's not something that can be overlooked. Winner of the *Galaxie Rising Star of the Year* at the 2010 East Coast Music Awards, Kim's undeniable talent has been showcased at JUNOFest, the Vancouver Olympics, Canadian Music Week and festivals across the East Coast including the Stan Rogers Folk Festival and Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival. This Fall, Wempe will tour in anticipation of her new album *Coalition* to be released in February 2013.



## Mo Kenney

Mo Kenney writes songs on a Hensel parlour guitar and enjoys singing them for people when the opportunities arise. A few of the songs are happy. Most are not. Mo has performed at Iceland Airwaves, Stan Rogers Festival, and HPX. She opened for Ron Sexsmith in Atlantic Canada, and toured with Joel Plaskett across the country. Her self-titled debut album is released on Pheromone Recordings in partnership with New Scotland Records.

# Country Stage



## Crowdis Bridge

Like whiskey, Crowdis Bridge is smooth, complex, tasteful and good for all occasions. From foot-stomping, light-hearted songs to soul-searching melodies with lyrics that run deep, they produce a fine mash of folk, country-blues and bluegrass, pleasing both whiskey and music lovers alike.



## Francelle Maria

Francelle Maria's debut album *Till the Wheels Fall Off* was selected as one of the 9 top albums of 2010 in Country Music News. On top of her many TV appearances hosting and performing on La Country Show, Francelle and Mathieu Leger were selected as Top 36 finalists on a nationwide TV show, Canada's Got Talent and got to perform for millions of viewers.



## Melanie Morgan

With her classic twang and powerful vocals Melanie has left a lasting impression on audiences all over the country. This was proven in 2011 with her amazing performance on CBC's *Cover me Canada*, an innovative reality TV competition that was first to integrate social media votes to crown a champion. After nine weeks of live competition, she came in second and has since received a ton of fan support for her career's continued success. Melanie is working on her third album and is set to be released in early spring 2013.



## Mike Biggar

Mike Biggar is larger than life. He commands notice and makes an impression not easily forgotten. Infectious country-rock melodies are heavily spiced with lyrics of life, love, struggle and faith. Whether fronting his band The Big Country Breakfast or playing solo, Mike always entertains, engages, and delivers.

An ardent live performer, Biggar's on-stage demeanour mingles a disarming, relaxed humour with soaring vocals, intimate lyrics and a keenly focused performance energy, making instant fans of those who drink of his musical potion. His soulful voice charms and enraptures listeners' ears and his honest delivery draws them into the world of Biggar's critically-acclaimed songwriting.



## Paul Lamb

As Paul embarks on his solo career, he is a changed man with new a new philosophy on life. First and foremost he strives be the best dad he can be. He is true to himself and chooses to take the steps necessary to be authentically happy not always choosing the easier route or quickest way to get where he is going. He enjoys his journey and follows his heart in love and in music. Life doesn't get more real than that!



## The Divorcees

The Divorcees have brought their brand of rough & ready country to roadhouses, festivals, and big stages from the shores of Canso Nova Scotia to downtown Vancouver with legions of supporters across Canada, the US, Australia, and Europe. They've shared stages with George Canyon, Corb Lund, The Sadies, Tim McGraw and Faith Hill. Their songs, as they are in person, are no-nonsense and straight-ahead. *Four Chapters* (2012) received six MusicNB nominations and "The Crows" won the AFF's 10x10 Video Award.

# Country Stage cont.



## The Heavy Horses

The Heavy Horses, the pseudonym under which Canadian musician Justin Mahoney writes and records songs about outlaws, angels, and murder, is steeped in tradition, and raised on a healthy diet of “the old country.” If you’ve always wanted to relive the wild west – well, those days are gone, but The Heavy Horses aim to get you pretty damn close...



## The Modern Grass

The Modern Grass was born in early 2011 in Halifax, NS and has since released four albums and toured the nation extensively and relentlessly. The group’s latest album *High on the Mountain* explores new territory in folk, roots, and bluegrass music alike. In May 2012, the Modern Grass took *High on the Mountain* on the road for an impressive tour with over 40 dates. Notable dates include the Kluane Mountain Bluegrass Festival in the Yukon, Tails Trails and tunes in Gros Morne, NFLD, The Lunenburg Folk Fest, The Kempt Shore Bluegrass Festival in NS and Deep Roots Music Festival.



## The Secrets

Newfoundland reared and raised; The Secrets met in college studying performance and recording. Quickly discovering a natural blend to not only their voices but their musical aspirations as well; they traded jigs and reels for whiskey, mandolins and faded jeans. The most easterly country group in North America, they opened for Alan Jackson in 2011 in NL and toured Canada wide Summer of 2012. Their debut CD drops in Spring 2013.



## Tonya Kennedy

The past two years have been stellar for East Coast Country music recording artist Tonya Kennedy. Along with two 2011 East Coast Music Award nominations (*Country Recording of the Year* & *Rising Star Recording of the Year*), she was also hand picked to be the MusicNL representative for the 2012 CCMA Fanfest Performance contest and received a Top 10 nod from the members of the CCMA for the 2011 Canadian Country *Female Artist of the Year*. Tonya also made her CMT debut on the documentary *The Birthplace Of The Beat*. She is more than well on her way to becoming a household name for country music fans across Canada.



## Tradition

C’est avec gaieté de cœur et joie de vivre que les gars de Tradition aiment faire partie de la fête ! On se laisse entraîner par les guitares électriques et acoustiques, le violon, la mandoline, le banjo, l’harmonica, la contrebasse, la batterie, le tambourin, les os rythmés et les belles harmonies vocales. Et pour le public, il suffit de se laisser entraîner par leur rythme endiablé qui font danser jusqu’aux petites heures du matin !

# Electronic Stage



## English Words

This five-piece has created a collage of new wave and 80's alternative, with bursts of neo-psychedelia and even a hint of Britpop, forming a singular vision of original and infectious electro rock. For over a year now the band has been working hometown crowds in Charlottetown, PEI, into a frenzy. With their debut album, *Red Potion*, released on September 18th, English Words are poised for a breakout.



## Scientists of Sound

Scientists of Sound are producers Aaron Collier (keyboards, bass) and Craig Mercer (guitar, drums, vocals) – both former members of the Canadian rocktronica act The Jimmy Swift Band. They are currently in the studio working on their debut album, scheduled for release in early 2013. They have shared the stage with MSTRKRFT, Boys Noize, Thunderheist, the New Deal, and many more, and are quickly becoming known as one of Canada's preminent live electronica acts.



## The Wax

Currently in the midst of a CD Release Tour for the album *Waiting Room*, The Wax focuses on the sound between the realm of rock and the ever evolving electronic music scene. Employing synthesizers, guitars, bass, and energetic drums, the group explores a provocative rock/electronic combination.



## TWRP

TWRP is exactly this: Daft Punk, Iron Maiden, Justice and Parliament all smashed into five spandex-clad, keytar wielding, helmet wearing, pelvic thrusting, wildly out of control individuals claiming to be from outerspace, except with way more lasers, confetti, projection screens, and sci-fi references.

Canadian Music. East Coast Style.

# Export Buyers Showcase



## Ben Caplan

Ben Caplan is to folklore what smoke is to bourbon. Perfectly coupled. Ben's songwriting is as bold in range as it is in ferocity. Fuelled by a quality of melodrama and powerful lyricism, it's the romance and the manhood crashing with his voice that gives Caplan a truly innovative and experimental artistry. A sound that bridges the gap between controlled composition and unruly passion.



## Carmen Townsend

Cape Breton's Carmen Townsend is a four time Music Nova Scotia winner and received the 2012 ECMA for *Rising Star Recording of the Year* for her debut album *Waitin' and Seein'* ( Produced by Gord Gano of the Violent Femmes) Whether she's opening for rock legends Heart on a cross Canada tour with just an acoustic guitar, or onstage with her three piece rock band, Ms. Townsend delivers gunning, passionate performances with an unmistakable voice.



## Christina Martin

Christina Martin's music achieves an effortless union between alt-country and rock with pop-sensibility. This ECMA award-winning artist has been attracting roots/rock listeners across North America and Europe for nearly a decade. An eminent singer songwriter and storyteller, she has released five albums. *Sleeping With A Stranger* is Christina's newest album, and reflects the artists coming of age lyrically and musically. "With a voice high, strong and bittersweet, the affecting Nova Scotian sings of search, vulnerability and the concept of home." - Brad Wheeler, The Globe and Mail



## David Myles

From Sydney, Australia to Sydney, Nova Scotia, multiple-award winner David Myles is bringing audiences to their feet with his spirited songs, flawless musicianship, and his warm and engaging stage show.



## Dwayne Côté and Duane Andrews

Steeped in the rich musical traditions of Cape Breton and Newfoundland, Dwayne Côté and Duane Andrews twist their inimitable blend of Canadian east coast celtic and roots music with strands of gypsy and jazz sounds.



## Jenn Grant

Click your ruby shoes three times and imagine a modern day Judy Garland, an artist with a technicolour voice and mischievous spirit. Jenn Grant's voice is widely recognized as one of the most mellifluous and melodic out there, and Six Shooter Records is proud to be the home for three beautiful records by this talented east coast artist. "She's one of the best singers in the world right now," says frequent collaborator Buck 65. Jenn has also performed for royal newlyweds William and Kate, a fitting audience for songs from the JUNO nominated album *Honeymoon Punch*.

Canadian Music. East Coast Style.

## Export Buyers Showcase cont.



### Mary Jane Lamond & Wendy MacIsaac

Whether it's the mesmerizing Gaelic vocals of Mary Jane, or the superb musicianship of Wendy on the fiddle, these ladies have been making their mark with traditional audiences worldwide for over two decades.



### Mo Kenney

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### Radio Radio

Radio Radio is an electro hip hop trio formed by French-Acadians. Based in Montreal, the band has seduced the public with their unique way of rapping, their catchy melodies, highly accessible music and their wild shows.



### Rose Cousins

Originally from Prince Edward Island, singer and songwriter Rose Cousins now lives in Halifax and tours across Canada, the United States and Europe.

Her new album, *We Have Made a Spark*, was long-listed for the Polaris Prize, and has received rave reviews from publications across the world – from *The Globe & Mail* to *USA Today*, from *The Irish Times* to *Oprah Magazine*. Cousins' previous ECMAs include *SOCAN Songwriter of the Year* and *Female Solo Recording of the Year* in 2011 for *The Send Off* and *Female Solo Recording of the Year* in 2008 for *If You Were For Me*.



### The BackYard Devils

Fancy is not a word often heard in Eastern Canada and there is nothing fancy about The BackYard Devils. Their debut album, released in the spring of 2011 is a well blended mix of dirty country, rockabilly and bluegrass. The musicianship runs deep with these fellas and although they're playing old styles of music they still managed to hammer down their own sound.



### The Divorcees

The Divorcees have brought their brand of rough & ready country to roadhouses, festivals, and big stages from the shores of Canso Nova Scotia to downtown Vancouver with legions of supporters across Canada, the US, Australia, and Europe. They've shared stages with George Canyon, Corb Lund, The Sadies, Tim McGraw and Faith Hill. Their songs, as they are in person, are no-nonsense and straight-ahead. *Four Chapters* (2012) received six MusicNB nominations and "The Crows" won the AFF's 10x10 Video Award.



Canadian Music. East Coast Style.

## Export Buyers Showcase cont.



### Tim Chaisson

When Tim Chaisson released *Broken Hearted Beat* in 2009, audiences were introduced to a golden-voiced young performer/songwriter with a mosaic-like approach to writing music. While that release featured healthy amounts of rock, pop, and country at its core, with his newest release *The Otherside*, he is quite literally going back to his roots.

# Pop / Rock Stage



## Coyote

Coyote is a progressive pop-rock band hailing from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. With an explosive and energetic live show, the group produces a blend of up-tempo indie rock and unleashes a wall of sound decorated with whimsical lyrics and brave leads.



## In-Flight Safety

In-Flight Safety formed in the small town of Sackville, NB, Canada during the twilight of their undergrad degrees. The idea to abandon their prescribed paths of study (fine art, computer sciences, geography, and classics) came in the form of a one-line email that said: “nice album.” That email was from David Bowie in reference to a handmade copy of their basement-recorded *Vacation Land* EP. Their most recent album *We Are An Empire, My Dear* was recorded in a 100-year-old schoolhouse during the dead of winter. The record combines pulsing bass, sparse piano, and hypnotic, pounding drums with hooky guitars inadvertently bathed in the neon colours of the 1980s.



## Jenn Grant

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## Molly Thomason

Molly Thomason is an 18-year old, award-winning songwriter and performer. She has released two albums, received a Canadian Folk Music Award for *Young Performer of the Year*, shared the stage with Canadian rockers Joel Plaskett and The Trews, and her new album is produced by John-Angus MacDonald (The Trews). She was also *Contemporary Singer of the Year* at the 2010 Canadian Folk Music Awards.



## Paper Lions

Paper Lions are a rock band from Belfast, PEI renowned for clear-voiced harmonies, clanging guitars, and vibrant pop songs. They are currently enjoying an upswell of fan-driven support for their latest EP, *At Long Creek*, and their video for “Traveling” has gone viral with 2 million views.



## Repartee

Since releasing their first EP in 2010 to a sold-out crowd at The Ship, synth/based pop/rockers Repartee have been actively touring country, showcasing at the Halifax Pop Explosion, Canadian Music Week and the ECMAs. They received the full MusicNL Sound Recording Grant and recorded their debut full-length album in 2011, which was then shortlisted for the Atlantis Music Prize. They’ve been named The Newfoundland Herald’s *Band to Watch* as well as The Scope’s *Best New Band*, and they’ve shared the stage with the likes of Mother Mother, Great Big Sea, Hey Rosetta, The Trews, and more. Most recently, the band was nominated for five MusicNL Awards.

# Pop / Rock Stage cont.



## Ria Mae

Ria Mae creates slick pop songs with universal themes of longing, love lost, and hearts found. Her debut full-length album, *Under Your Skin*, is produced by Asif Illyas (MIR) and won the 2012 East Coast Music award for *Pop Recording of the Year*.



## SoHo Ghetto

SoHo Ghetto is a 7 piece indie-folk and pop band from Halifax featuring a surprising mix of big sound power and intimate songwriting. Artful arrangements, big harmonies and hook-laden anthems have been garnering SoHo critical praise and industry buzz. Their pop sensibility and orchestral whimsy makes them worthy of the interest and the excitement that is building around this band.



## The Tom Fun Orchestra

The Tom Fun Orchestra is a world famous band of modest Cape Breton musicians who obviously hire professional types to write their bio. Tom Fun would never themselves choose to list their many accomplishments, which include multiple tours across Canada and the United Kingdom, as well as sojourns to the Republic of Ireland and Australia. If they wrote their own story, would they even mention their widely popular 2008 debut release, *You Will Land With a Thud*, the album that helped them win two East Coast Music Awards and two Music Nova Scotia awards? It is doubtful, for they are a humble band. is both cathartic and epic. They are not to be missed live in concert.

# Rap / Hip Hop Stage



## Cam Smith

The word multi-tasking doesn't do justice to Cam Smith. In the last year and a half Cam has released four self-produced projects. His latest release *OceanBlue* captured a new fanbase and shows that Cam is one of Canada's hardest working up and comers.



## Quake Matthews

Twenty-two year old Halifax emcee Quake Matthews (formerly Quake) has proven that persistence, hard-work and passion go hand in hand to survive in this music industry. Since emerging from the underground battle rap scene in his early teens, the hungry street savvy lyricist has aimed to create a sound that brings back the classic essence of hip-hop. Within five years, Quake transformed his humble rap beginnings with groups like Fax4, into a slew of critically-acclaimed mixtapes and projects. With a relentless work ethic, Quake is a true testament to his East Coast upbringing.



## The Caravan

Kyle Mckenna (vocals) brings depth and thoughtfulness to his lyrics, that flow from the stage prodigiously. Joined by Mark Bachynski (drums) and Mike Ritchie (guitar), they are a band of innumerable influences and taste.



## Three Sheet

Three Sheet is a five member, genre-bending powerhouse with a firm base in hip hop and backed by 100% beatbox percussion. With a highly portable composition of three microphones, a guitar, and a bass, Three Sheet is known for their mind-melting organic sound with no samples, no loops and no synthesized drums. Three Sheet has had great regional success after two full-length albums and extensive touring through NB, NS, PEI, QC and ON. Now, after breaking onto the international scene with a full blown five date national tour of Taiwan and a showcase in Union Square, NYC in 2012, one should expect to see a whole lot more from this tightly knit, unique collaborative (including their all new third LP to be released in 2013).

# Rock Stage



## Carmen Townsend

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## Gloryhound

In their formative years, Gloryhound listened to Alice Cooper, The Ramones, Thin Lizzy and Iggy Pop. All of these influences can be heard in their self-styled form of rock, but their sound is truly their own. Simply put: "All stacks, no macs." With a debut album under their belts, the ECMA nominated *Leave It Alone*, the four high school band mates took up residency in Toronto to both impress the masses and record their second record. With fellow Haligonian Laurence Currie at the helms Gloryhound recorded *Electric Dusk*. On the strength of that recording, and a no holds barred sonic blast of a live performance, the band was signed to the prestigious Agency Group by company president Ralph James.



## The Long Distance Runners

On their latest nationally acclaimed debut full length album, *Tracks*, Newfoundland's The Long Distance Runners further explore their stoner rock and folk and bluesy roots. Drawing on classic musical influences from The Velvet Underground and Jonathan Richman to The Rolling Stones and The Kinks, The Runners have ascended swiftly on the Canadian indie music scene, earning them billings with bands like, Said The Whale, Wintersleep, The Jim Cuddy Band Gloryhound and many more.



## The Meds

The Meds are a Charlottetown based rock band with a strong local following, and a growing national fan base. After successfully honing their songwriting and performing skills over several years, the band set out to record their first LP. After gaining the direct support slot for the Matt Mays *Coyote* tour, the band was encouraged to produce an EP, which was released October 1, 2012. The band continues to impress with both their electric and acoustic sets, and regularly performs to sold-out venues at home, and on the road.



## The Motorleague

The Motorleague have often been described as the anthem to every shit boss or bad break up you've ever had.



## The Stanfields

Inciting mosh pits and still making mom proud, The Stanfields attract fans of all classes and creeds with their rhythm-fueled hard rock laced with traditional roots sounds. There are no glamorous motives – just five working class Canadians with an honest desire to entertain. With the help of iconic producer Mike Fraser (AC/DC, Metallica, Aerosmith) The Stanfields better capture the intensity of their riotous live show on *Death & Taxes* with harder, faster and full-on thunderous waves of rhythm and roaring harmonies behind menacing leads.

# Rock Stage cont.



## The Town Heroes

The Town Heroes are an alt-rock power duo crafting catchy, hard-hitting songs. Voted *Best Local Band* in 2012 in The Coast's *Best Of Music Poll*, TTH have performed at Reeperbahn Festival, Great Escape and showcased at Canadian Music Week, NXNE, Nova Scotia Music Week & East Coast Music Awards.



## Young River

Young River have been a strong musical force since entering the east coast music scene in 2009. Based in Halifax, the band has showcased their sound in venues all over the Maritimes. Having shared stages with artists like Hawksley Workman, The Novaks, and The Balconies, the band's recognition is growing quickly. Their unique sound shows the influence of such bands as The Constantines, Attack In Black, and The Arkells. Their self-titled debut album has been nominated for two Music Nova Scotia Awards in 2012, and the band's songwriter/guitarist, Zach MacLean has been nominated for MNS's Musician of the Year. With their sophomore album in the works, the band's momentum shows no signs of slowing down.

# Roots Room



## Ben Caplan

Ben Caplan is to folklore what smoke is to bourbon. Perfectly coupled. Ben's songwriting is as bold in range as it is in ferocity. Fuelled by a quality of melodrama and powerful lyricism, it's the romance and the manhood crashing with his voice that gives Caplan a truly innovative and experimental artistry. A sound that bridges the gap between controlled composition and unruly passion.



## Carmel Mikol

With three 2011 ECMA nominations, a busy Canadian & US touring schedule, a diverse roster of co-writing credits, and grand prize wins in the 2011 John Lennon International Song Contest, Great American Song Contest and ISSA, Carmel Mikol is a serious contender on the east coast music scene.



## Dennis Ellsworth

Dennis has grown into one of Atlantic Canada's most potent songwriters, with beautifully poetic lyrics and a veteran's sense of melody, tune and arrangement. The most recent release, *Dusk Dreams*, was recorded in Athens, Georgia, with acclaimed musician and producer, David Barbe (Drive By Truckers, Cracker, Bob Mould/Sugar).



## Dwayne Côté and Duane Andrews

Steeped in the rich musical traditions of Cape Breton and Newfoundland Dwayne Côté and Duane Andrews twist their inimitable blend of Canadian East Coast celtic and roots music with strands of gypsy and jazz sounds.



## Ennis

As the Ennis Sisters, the group released six CDs, toured the Middle East, Norway, the UK, every Canadian province and 90% of the United States, accumulating their own gold record, plus two compilation gold records along the way. In addition to sharing stages with the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, The Chieftains, Mary Black and Jann Arden, career highlights include a JUNO Award, a SOCAN Award, and multiple ECMAs and Music Newfoundland awards and nominations.



## Mary Jane Lamond & Wendy MacIsaac

Whether it's the mesmerizing Gaelic vocals of Mary Jane, or the superb musicianship of Wendy on the fiddle, these ladies have been making their mark with traditional audiences worldwide for over two decades.

# Roots Room cont.



## The Dardanelles

Armed with a love of jigs, reels and ballads honoured in Newfoundland and an energy found more often in three piece punk rock bands than five piece folk acts, their accordions, fiddle and talent have shaken national festivals including Winnipeg, Mariposa, and Vancouver. Barely into their twenties, they've intuitively become the keepers of songs we love and have sought out tunes that may have otherwise been lost to the culture forever. A new breed of folk musician with a wide sense of the world and a firm belief that Newfoundlanders can hold their own with the best players the world has to offer.

# Songwriters' Circle Showcase



## Dave Gunning

Dave's tenth album *No More Pennies* is inarguably his finest collection of songs to date. The record celebrates the journey and pays tribute to the trials and tribulations, the highs and lows and the goodness at the heart of people. On *No More Pennies*, Dave has proven to be a deft arranger and a songwriting master craftsman with co-written gems with George Canyon, Jim Dorie, David Francey (duet), Lennie Gallant, Bruce Guthro, Karine Polwart (duet) and record producer, Jamie Robinson. The lead signature track, "These Hands" co-written with George Canyon is a 'call to action' style song reminiscent of classic Pete Seeger to inspire us to make good in this world.



## David Myles

From Sydney, Australia to Sydney, Nova Scotia, multiple-award winner David Myles is bringing audiences to their feet with his spirited songs, flawless musicianship, and his warm and engaging stage show.



## Ian Sherwood

Named *Best Male Artist* by the 2012 International Acoustic Music Awards, multiple Music Nova Scotia Award winner and ECMA nominee, Ian Sherwood has been described as "Traditional singer/songwriter style at it's essence."



## Irish Mythen

Irish Mythen, singer, songwriter, recording artist and award nominee was born and bred in Ireland. With four albums, including the ECMA-nominated *Open Here*, Irish now calls NB home since her permanent move to Canada in 2009. Irish has shared the stage with the likes of Richie Havens, Sylvia Tyson, The Dubliners, Shane MacGowen, Gordie Sampson, Matt Andersen, and the list goes on. Her live performances are a thing of wild emotion as she pours heart and soul into every word she sings. She has a way of delivering her songs that leave you in awe of her vocal talent and remembering the show, the songs, and the performer long after you've walked away.



## J.P. Cormier

J.P. Cormier is a multi-instrumentalist and gifted singer-songwriter who reads the times with songs. This amazing individual brings his dazzling compositions and finger work to many theatres, and festivals across North America and overseas. J.P.'s impressive body of work has earned him a vast and loyal fan base and multiple award nominations and wins, including twelve East Coast Music Awards, Canadian Folk Music Award, five Music Nova Scotia Awards, JUNO nominations, and commendations from the Governor General of Canada and Premier of Nova Scotia.



## Kim Stockwood

Kim Stockwood has a 20 year history in the entertainment business. She has received awards for her writing and her recordings, she has had multiple hits from her two solo albums, and accolades as a member of supergroup, Shaye. Kim has hosted numerous radio and television shows and events, and has always been a very strong, live performer. After taking time off to be a stay-at-home mom, and a two year stint as a full-time radio morning show host, Kim has returned to music, this time to the roots music she has always loved.

# Songwriters' Circle Showcase cont.



## Lennie Gallant

Lennie Gallant is a native of Rustico, Prince Edward Island. Recognized by his peers as one of Canada's best performing songwriters, he has released nine albums (seven in English and two in French), which have won him a host of awards and nominations from both the JUNOs and East Coast Music Awards. He has toured extensively internationally, playing festivals and concerts accompanied by roots rock bands, and in acoustic settings. He has shared the stage with such accomplished songwriters as Lucinda Williams, Roger Hodgson (Supertramp), Patti Griffin, and Ron Sexsmith and has represented Canada at songwriter events in Nashville, London, and Texas.



## Tim Chaisson

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# Soundwaves Program



## Acres and Acres

Halifax-based folk-rock group, Acres and Acres have just released their sophomore album, *Truth & Sky*, on November 20, 2012. Renowned for creating amazing live show experiences delicately orchestrated with rich melodies, memorable harmonies, funny stories and thoughtful moments, Acres and Acres is made up of talented musicians, Kris Pope, David Scholten, Ian Bent, Ian M Sherwood and Jordi Comstock.



## Andrea England

Nova Scotia's Andrea England has a unique ability to work successfully in two different music worlds, recording and performing as a solo artist herself in a folk/roots/country vein, and placing pop co-writes such as "Casualty" on Pussycat Doll Nicole Scherzinger's solo debut album, *Killer Love*. *Hope & Other Sins*, Andrea's sophomore album, is the long-awaited follow-up to 2005's *Lemonade*, the debut that enabled her to work behind the scenes as a professional songwriter. Recorded primarily in Nashville by Colin Linden (Bruce Cockburn, The Band) with a core team of England, Gary Craig, John Dymond, John Whynot and Linden, *Hope & Other Sins* may very well break – and then repair – the most cynical heart.



## Bonnie Ste-Croix

Born into a music-loving family in the small fishing village of Gaspé, Bonnie Ste-Croix's early exposure to music came in the form of traditional Quebecois reels and tunes. Combine that with a kitchen party culture, a vivid imagination, a love of words and the gift of mellifluous, honeyed vocals and you have the makings of an artist prolific with the pen and riveting in melodious delivery. Now living in Halifax, Bonnie Ste-Croix considers all of Canada her hometown. This sentiment is evident in her ambitions and highly acclaimed album, *Canadian Girl*.



## Christina Martin

Christina Martin's music achieves an effortless union between alt-country and rock with pop-sensibility. This ECMA award-winning artist has been attracting roots/rock listeners across North America and Europe for nearly a decade. An eminent singer songwriter and storyteller, she has released five albums. *Sleeping With A Stranger* is Christina's newest album, and reflects the artist's coming of age lyrically and musically. "With a voice high, strong and bittersweet, the affecting Nova Scotian sings of search, vulnerability and the concept of home." - Brad Wheeler, The Globe and Mail.



## Gypsophilia

Halifax-based Gypsophilia is a group of seven young performers whose instrumental music straddles the jazz and indie worlds. The band started in 2004 as a Django Reinhardt tribute, but soon found itself mixing gypsy jazz with klezmer, funk, classical music, and indie rock, composing original music, and selling out shows all over Canada. Gypsophilia's raucous mash-up of original sounds is in full force on their third album *Constellation* (Forward, 2011), which was recorded at Montreal's legendary hotel2tango studio with producer Howard Bilerman (Arcade Fire, Bell Orchestre, Stars).



## Les Hay Babies

Les Hay Babies craft a colorful folk music filled with sensibility and modernity. The young women, from little New Brunswick villages, will carry you into their world with the warmth of their harmonies. They create moving melodies with only a guitar, a banjo and a ukulele. Les Hay Babies shared the stage with Motorleague, The Novaks, The Backyard Devils and Les Paiens. People may remember them from the very popular hotel elevator shows they were offering during the ECMAs in April 2012.

# Soundwaves Program cont.



## Norma MacDonald

New Waterford, Nova Scotia native Norma MacDonald's third album, *Morning You Wake*, is undoubtedly the songwriter's most diverse collection of sounds and stories to date. From the starry-eyed waltz "Bright as you Dare," to the Neko Case-ean "Comeback Kid" to the elegiac Springsteen flood-of-emotion of "Swollen Sky," her sound mixes the sincerity and grit of car stereo old-country with the polish and sophistication of satellite radio North-Americana. *Morning you Wake* has received glowing reviews in Canada and Europe (UK, Belgium, the Netherlands) and was the #3 most played album on Galaxie's Folk Roots channel in 2011.



## Saint John String Quartet

The Saint John String Quartet's active concertizing schedule of over 125 concerts a year has taken them throughout Canada, the United States, Europe, Japan, Hong Kong and China. Their most recent recording of Jacques Hétu's String Quartet No. 2 attracted a JUNO nomination in the *Classical Composition of the Year* category and their previous CD won the ECMA "Best Classical Album of the Year" award. The group can be often heard on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation radio waves, the internet and on four award-winning compact discs.



## Stephanie Mainville

Stephanie Mainville is a two-time ECMA nominee and multi-award winner who has appeared in official showcases at the JUNOs, Canadian Country Music Week, Canadian Music Week, and six times at the ECMAs. Her music captivates the listener with its incredible unassuming majesty.