



May 23, 2013

BACKGROUND

Canadian Superstars set to perform on the 2013 Coca-Cola Stage

MICHAEL BERNARD FITZGERALD

Appearing Thursday, July 4

Website: <http://www.ilovembf.com>

Michael Bernard Fitzgerald is refreshing, optimistic and modest. He grew up in Calgary, a cosmopolitan city known for its beautiful Rocky Mountain backdrop, an annual rodeo (The Calgary Stampede) and great bike paths. He spent most of his time as a child outdoors with his family camping, biking and hiking in the mountains. Michael's kind, approachable disposition gives way to an undeniable confidence onstage. This young man can break hearts playing solo with an acoustic guitar and loop pedal, and equally make venues soar with a full band. In Canada, Michael tours regularly from coast to coast. He plays a guitar that is considered the workhorse of acoustics, a Gibson J45 (he has one in sunburst and natural); part of his passion for real instruments B3's, Leslies, tube amplifiers, saxophones and drum kits. "I love Paul Simon, Bruce Springsteen, Bob Seger, Feist, Souls of Mischief and Mason Jennings," declares Michael. His favorite lyric of all time is from Paul Simon's Graceland album "My traveling companion is nine years old, he is the child of my first marriage." (As a young boy, Michael and his mom used to dance to Graceland.)

DEAN BRODY

Appearing Friday, July 5

Website: <http://deanbrody.com>

Honoured with the 2012 CCMA Award for *Male Artist of the Year*, Brody has received the award for *Album of the Year* (*Trail In Life* and *Dirt*) at the CCMA Awards in 2011 and 2012. His third album, *Dirt*, released in April 2012, debuted at #1 on the iTunes Canadian Country chart and continues to rank in the Top 20. Brody set out on his headlining, The Dirt Tour, this past winter playing to sold-out crowds across the country. With over 100,000 digital singles sales from *Dirt* and named the #1 Most Played Canadian Country Artist at radio in both 2011 and 2012, Brody has charted ten Top 10 singles including the #1 single "Canadian Girls," #2 hit "Bob Marley" and "It's Friday" featuring Great Big Sea. He has earned 17 CCMA Award nominations, two JUNO Award nominations and four of his videos have reached #1 on CMT's Top 20 Countdown with an additional six videos charting in the Top 5. The success of *Dirt* has brought Brody to the forefront of audiences; featured on Degrassi - The Next Generation, performing at CBC's Fall Season Preview, CBC's Stampede 100! and CITY-TV's *The Bachelor*.

SERENA RYDER

Appearing Saturday, July 6

Website: <http://serenaryder.com>

Born and raised just outside Peterborough in Millbrook, Ontario, songwriter Serena Ryder grew up listening to old Beatles and Leonard Cohen records that she found in her parents' collection. She started singing publicly as a young child and, having received a guitar from her father, began playing the instrument at the age of 13. Songwriting efforts followed. In 2002, the 18 year-old took several recordings from a live Quebec performance and packaged them into an official demo, which eventually made its way to CBC Radio and got Ryder an invitation to perform on-air. Ryder recorded her debut, *Unlikely Emergency*, which was released in 2004 and reissued in the U.S. the following year. If *Your Memory Serves You Well*, a collection of 12 covers and three originals, arrived in late 2006. Ryder soon found

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herself opening shows for Aerosmith and receiving the 2008 Juno Award for "Best New Artist," both of which prefaced the release of her sophomore effort, *Is It O.K.*, in November 2008. In 2012, Serena recorded and released *Harmony*, which featured the top ten hit *Stompa*. The album won a 2013 Juno Award for Adult Alternative Album of the Year.

CORB LUND

Appearing Sunday, July 7

Website: <http://corblund.com>

Cabin Fever, Corb Lund's latest album, follows on the boot heels of Lund's 2009 *New West* debut, the critically acclaimed *Losin' Lately Gambler*, his sixth album. Backed by his longtime band, *The Hurtin' Albertans*, the JUNO Award recipient has won kudos in his native land; the Canadian Country Music Association has named Lund *Roots Artist of the Year* 7 consecutive years from 2004 – 2010. Goth girls to survivalists, bovines to bibles, antique pistols to vintage motorcycles: Alberta-born honky-tonker Corb Lund's songcraft covers it all. From a rustic retreat deep in the Rocky Mountain forest, *Cabin Fever*, Lund's enthralling new album, evolved from a period of introspection and hard traveling. Just like the prolific Lund's subjects run the gamut, so do the sonics on the live-sounding long-player, ranging from rockabilly to Western swing, cowboy balladry to country-rock. Lund has affection for The Calgary Stampede. Lund is a fourth-generation cowboy himself. He started rodeo-ing as a youngster and won his first trophy (for steer riding) at age 11. "My grandpas, parents, cousins, uncles, everybody competed in the Stampede," says Lund. "The Calgary Stampede is a big part of family tradition."

ANJULIE

Appearing Monday, July 8

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/anjuliemusic>

Hot off her JUNO Award for "Dance Recording of the Year" Anjulie brings her dynamic show to the Coca-Cola Stage for the first time. With her unique voice, disarmingly frank lyrics, melodic gifts, and exotic good looks, singer and songwriter Anjulie announces herself as a commanding new presence on the music scene. After growing up in Canada enamored with everyone from Alanis Morissette and Michael Jackson to Lauryn Hill and Jeff Buckley, she headed to New York with music on her mind. However, she wasn't going to simply rely on songwriters and producers for her music. "I literally started by playing guitar on the street," she declares. "I'd play in subway stations and lobbies of record companies. Putting down roots in L.A. in 2009, she began to hone that sound, distilling elements of hip hop, electronic music, and rock into her own brand of pop. Simultaneously, she became a highly sought-after songwriter. She wrote for the likes of Chris Brown, Laidback Luke, and Fefe Dobson. Catching the attention of Republic Records, she signed to the label and dropped her first official single, "Brand New Bitch" in 2011. The track took off in her native Canada, going double platinum and garnering nominations for "Pop Video of the Year" at the 2012 *Much Music Awards*. Furthermore, Anjulie upped the ante immensely with her second single, "You and I". Lilted acoustic guitar builds into a shimmering refrain that's tailor-made for the dance floor. Teaming up with Italian production powerhouse Benny Benassi [Madonna, Chris Brown], she's made a worldwide anthem. A new album will be released in 2013.

SHAWN DESMAN

Appearing Monday, July 8

Website: <http://shawndesman.com>

With a platinum debut album, a sophomore Juno Award winning album for Best R&B/Soul Recording, chart-topping singles and videos, movie roles and international accolades under his belt, singer/dancer/songwriter/producer Shawn Desman is poised to launch his highly anticipated fourth album. From the moment he released his self-titled debut CD in the fall of 2002, Shawn Desman has enjoyed phenomenal success. His album spent an incredible 49 weeks on the SoundScan Top 200 sales chart and produced two Top 10 singles and two #1 videos. Desman's visibility then soared to even greater heights after the subsequent release of his sophomore album "Back for More" which produced a #1 hit single, three Top 10 hit singles, and also garnered him a Juno Award for "Best R&B/Soul Recording."



JULY 5 – 14, 2013

His most recent project after a five-year hiatus was his highly anticipated third album "*FRESH*". The first single was the Gold selling hit "*Shiver*," a chart topping smash. The second release off the album, Platinum selling single "*Night Like This*" reached #1 in Canada, and the video marks his return to his roots in dance music boasting over 100 dancers in the music video. It's undeniable that Desman's fourth album "*ALIVE*" featuring his Gold selling chart-topping single "*Nobody Does It Like You*" and "*Dum Da Dum*" will represent a tremendous leap in the next direction for a young man who has spent most of his life working diligently at becoming a world renowned entertainer, with personal and professional accomplishments that leave an indelible mark on the human experience.

DRAGONETTE

Appearing Monday, July 8

Website: <http://dragonetteonline.com>

Dragonette returns to the Coca-Cola Stage for their second appearance. Martina Sorbara and Dan Kurtz met at a Canadian music festival and formed a duo named The Fuzz, making music together in their basement recording studio for fun. The duo formed Dragonette after these initial recordings, and supported New Order on only their second live performance. In 2005, the band released *Dragonette EP*, prior to signing a record deal with UK record label Mercury Records. Since receiving a JUNO nomination for "*Best New Group*" in 2008, Dragonette has been a mainstay on the Canadian charts. The band relocated to London to record their second release "*Galore*", which was released in September 2007. A second studio album, *Fixin to Thrill*, was released in 2009. The band, now a trio, picked up a JUNO Award for "*Best Dance Recording*" in 2012 for "*Hello*". That single was from the Martin Solveig collaboration "*Smash*". In September, 2012, Dragonette released their third album "*Bodyparts*" which featured the single releases "*Let It Go*", "*Live In This City*", and their current hit "*Run, Run, Run*". "*Bodyparts*" was the first Dragonette album to be produced by the band, as well as the first to be released in Canada and the U.S. at the same time.

DOWN WITH WEBSTER

Appearing Tuesday, July 9

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/downwithwebster>

Canadian rap-rock group Down with Webster made their major-label debut in 2009 with the mini-album *Time to Win, Vol. 1*. Based in Toronto and founded when the band members were in junior high school, the seven-man band was initially comprised of Bucky (vocals), Cam (vocals), Kap (vocals), Pat (vocals, guitar), Tyler (bass, keyboards), Marty (drums), and Diggy (turntables). After establishing themselves as an exciting live band on the independent music scene, Down with Webster were offered a recording contract with Universal Motown Records and shortly thereafter issued *Time to Win, Vol. 1*, a seven-track mini-album that spawned the radio hit "*Rich Girls*" (whose hook is an interpolation of the 1970s blue-eyed soul classic "*Rich Girl*" by Hall & Oates). In 2011, Down with Webster announced that Kap had left the band due to creative differences. The single "*She's Dope*," from the band's *Time to Win, Vol. 2*, was released in May of 2011. In April, 2013 the band released the single / video "*One In A Million*" from a new album scheduled for release in August.

BIG WRECK

Appearing Wednesday, July 10

Website: <http://bigwreckmusic.com>

Beyond the impact of their recordings, Big Wreck retains a legacy of an exceptional touring band who delivers on stage true to all the great rock legend and lore. "We're getting incredibly impatient," admits band member Brian Doherty. "Take a group of guys like us and put them on the road for weeks, playing 5-6 nights a week and it's a matter of what that can become. You can come see Big Wreck in a club and appreciate the Rock 'n' Roll party side and have a ball AND I think there's a lot to listen to in terms of musicianship and songwriting. There's a lot to offer and if

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JULY 5 – 14, 2013

an audience can work with that, this will be great." So *Albatross*, their latest album is the same Big Wreck, only different. Fresh yet familiar, there's no mistaken the voice, the virtuosity of playing, the pen from which it pours forth. Ask Ian Thornley if Big Wreck of 2012 is the Big Wreck that called it a day back in 2002 and he sees this as the natural extension of what he's been doing for decades now. "It's still the same thing. I'm still looking to get off and get that feeling. I'm still searching for the perfect thing. I hope I never find it." Big Wreck fans may argue that they've found what they've been looking for these last ten years.

K-OS

Appearing Thursday July 11

Website: <http://www.k-osmusic.com/>

k-os, aka Kevin Brereton aka Kheaven, has made his name pushing the limits of rap and hip-hop - pioneering his own distinct and innovative sound. A self-declared "historical opportunist who's grown up on everything from Dylan to Marley to KRS-One", k-os has been anything but typical. Born in Trinidad and Tobago, he was raised in a strict Jehovah Witness family and spent his formative teen years in Whitby, Ontario... and it's easy to see how he became a determined non-conformist when you hear him talk about how he had to stand outside the classroom when the national anthem was being played. Well, since then he's been making his voice heard: two platinum-selling albums, a Grammy nod, and multiple Juno and MMVA Awards. Two years in the making, k-os is back with a cutting edge double album "*Black on Blonde*" that was recorded at Hayden Christensen's deserted Laurel Canyon mansion. Collaborators include Sam Roberts, Metric's Emily Haines, Sebastien Grainger (Death from Above 1979) and Corey Hart. The first single off the album "*The Dog Is Mine*" was released on iTunes on September 18, 2012. The follow up single "*Nyce 2 Know Ya*" was released on iTunes on October 9, 2012 and peaked at number 47 on the Canadian Hot 100.

SAM ROBERTS BAND

Appearing Friday, July 12

Website: <http://www.samrobertsband.com>

Roberts signed to Universal Music and released his full-length major label debut, *We Were Born in a Flame*, in June 2003. That album's singles, "*Where Have All the Good People Gone?*" and "*Hard Road*", received a large amount of success, although mainly in Canada. The band's second album, *Chemical City*, was released in Canada in April 2006. The first single was "*The Gate*", which quickly shot to number one on Canadian rock radio. The second single in Canada was "*Bridge to Nowhere*", which won the Juno Award for "Video of the Year" in 2007. Roberts' third album, *Love at the End of the World*, was released in May 2008. It debuted at the number one position on the Canadian album chart, a first for Roberts. The lead single, "*Them Kids*", debuted on iTunes on March 4, 2008. Sam Roberts and his band mates released their fourth studio album, "*Collider*" on May 10, 2011. It is the first album under the moniker "Sam Roberts Band" instead of "Sam Roberts". Over the course of a ten-year career the band has won six Juno Awards and five MuchMusic Video Awards.

WALK OFF THE EARTH

Appearing Saturday July 13

Website: <http://www.walkofftheearth.com>

Walk Off The Earth formed six years ago in Burlington, Ontario, releasing two full length albums and several singles independently. The band began creating low-budget YouTube videos that quickly resulted in an ever-growing fan base all over the world. They hit upon something special when they decided to shoot their videos all in one take. The single-take videos became their signature, and to date 90 per cent of the videos they make are done in one take, even though their editing skills have developed over the years. The band's axis shifted in 2012 when a cover of Gotye's "*Somebody That I Used to Know*" went viral (and then some) on YouTube. The now-infamous video shows all five members playing, in unconventional ways, one guitar. They uploaded the video, thinking it wasn't necessarily their best work. But they woke up to inboxes overflowing with hundreds of emails, endless voicemail messages and



JULY 5 – 14, 2013

the news they were being talked about on radio stations around the world. "There was just a vibe in the air," says singer Sarah Blackwood. "And we kept saying, 'Something's happening. Something really cool is happening.'" Soon Ellen DeGeneres came calling, and then the band made appearances at Lollapalooza, Summer Sonic Festival in Tokyo, Japan, as well as a string of sold out shows in Europe, keeping the band on the go. But they were determined more than ever to keep the buzz going, and Walk Off The Earth got down to work, recording their debut album for Columbia Records, called *R.E.V.O.* The title is an acronym for "Realize Every Victory Outright." For the band, it also represents a revolution, a call for listeners to stay positive and keep striving for their goals. A way of life. Their way of life.

HEDLEY

Appearing Sunday, July 14

Website: <http://www.hedleyonline.com>

After forming in 2004, the band signed a deal with Universal Music Canada and released their self-titled debut album and entered the stratosphere of bonafide Canadian pop superstars. From sold-out arena shows cross-country to the group's 15 Juno nominations, Hedley's intense musicianship and penetrating lyrics have made them something like a wildly popular cult act. Indeed, few bands share such a close relationship with their fans or can match the group's illustrious achievements: three consecutive double-platinum certificates; 1,000,000 downloads; 10 straight videos reaching number one on the prestigious MuchMusic countdown. In 2010, Pollstar even named the act one of the 100 top touring artists in the world. Hoggard, however, says his group takes nothing for granted. The new album, *Storms*, produced by long-time collaborator Brian Howes, is at once fiercer and more melodic than any of the band's previous work. Anthems and ballads, love songs and confessions, the record is real and raw and already striking a chord with their fans, as evidenced with the sales of "Invincible". Released in August 2012, the record's touching first single has proven to be the group's fastest-selling digital track of all-time. The band was nominated for the following categories for the 2013 Juno Awards: Fan Choice Award, Album of the Year (for *Storms*), and Single of the Year (for "Kiss You Inside Out"). After playing together for nearly a decade, the group – with Dave Rosin on guitar, Tommy Mac on bass and Chris Crippin playing drums – is tighter than ever on *Storms*, and more groove-based, something that Hoggard credits to the group's deepening personal relationships.

About the Calgary Stampede

As we enter our second century, the Calgary Stampede celebrates the people, the animals, the land, the traditions and the values that make up the unique spirit of the west. The Calgary Stampede contributes to the quality of life in Calgary and southern Alberta through our world-renowned 10-day Stampede, year-round facilities, western events and several youth and agriculture programs. Exemplifying the theme We're Greatest Together; we are a volunteer-supported, not-for-profit community organization that preserves and promotes western heritage and values. All revenue is reinvested into Calgary Stampede programs and facilities.

- 30 -

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