

Chart-topping Family Band Leahy Return to BC for One Performance Only

Canadian Supergroup Leahy opens 2019/20 ACT Presents Season for their first BC Appearance in Four Years



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, September 13, 2019 - Over the course of their notable career, Canadian group Leahy has secured a place as one of the world's most highly regarded progressive folk-roots bands, renowned for performances full of energy, big rich sound, poignant songs, fiery instrumentals and percussive step-dancing.

Having toured extensively throughout Canada, the USA and Europe over the last 20+ years, their three acclaimed records have sold more than half a million albums worldwide. Leahy has been featured in three PBS television specials and are the subject of an Academy Award winning documentary, *The Leahys: Music Most of All*.

Now, after working on several solo projects, running their own all-ages summer music camp at Lakefield College School, and touring with their children, Leahy returns to the stage, for one show only in BC this season, for Opening Night of the ACT Arts Centre's 19/20 season in Maple Ridge on Saturday, September 21 at 8pm. The band last performed in BC in Cranbrook in 2015.

Leahy has been busy back in the studio recording a new album, *Good Water*, a wide-ranging collection that reflects the individual personalities that make up Leahy. Built on their roots and the distinctive "Leahy sound", their new material reveals the band's drive to continue pushing beyond its traditional footings.

"We have been pushing ourselves beyond the traditional Celtic world while still staying with traditional themed and instrumental pieces. We're excited to be working with experienced rock producer David Botrill, who has worked with the likes of Peter Gabriel and Smashing Pumpkins." – Frank Leahy

Growing up in a house with 11 children, getting along among the Leahy siblings was required, and that transferred to their musical abilities and cohesion. Their emergence on the Canadian music scene in the late 1990's with their chart-topping instrumental single "Call to Dance", introduced audiences to a new way of accessing a uniquely Canadian music genre.

The "Leahy sound" – a combination of strong stride piano, unique bass guitar and drumming styles along with driving rhythm guitar – was the foundation from which wildly talented fiddle-led instrumentals and vocals were launched to mainstream music listeners. Leahy would go on to win three Juno awards and receive countless accolades for their dynamic and powerful performances.

Image credit: Anita Peeples

About the ACT Arts Centre

A not-for-profit society serving the community since 1971, The ACT Arts Centre offers vibrant arts and cultural experiences through excellence in artistic and educational programming. The ACT Presents Series is supported by The Department of Canadian Heritage, The BC Arts Council, The Province of British Columbia, The City of Maple Ridge.

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