Canadian Folk Festival Directory, 1993

Introduction

Welcome once more to another festival directory. I write this with mixed feelings, as I am pleased that we are able to get the Directory to you in a more timely fashion than last year (of course, last year we almost didn’t have a Directory, nor a Bulletin either!). At the same time, I am disappointed that we aren’t able to include as many festivals as previously. Several of the provincial tourism departments which last year sent us lavish booklets with listings of numerous folk-related events have not been heard from by press time, with the result that those provinces are under-represented (in some cases in major fashion) in this Directory. It’s too early to tell whether this is a function of economic cutbacks, or whether it results from our decision to publish earlier than last year. There has always existed the dilemma that the later the Directory is published, the less use it is to readers in planning their summer festival attendances, but the earlier it is published the less material can be included. Certainly some governments (and festivals) move with the speed of the Columbia Icefields, and letters are still arriving right up to the cut-off.

On the positive side, readers spending their summer on the prairies or in Ontario or Newfoundland have a wide range of events to choose from, and if you’re headed for other areas there’s always the option of checking with local tourist information sources. As well, we’re finding a number of new contact addresses which we hope will serve us well for future years.

If you have opinions on the form, content or timing of the Directory, we’d be overjoyed to hear from you. Meanwhile, we wish you a pleasant summer soaking up your favourite music!

John Leeder

British Columbia

The British Columbia government has not responded by press time

July 1 and 2, 1993

OLD WEST COWBOY/COWGIRL CONCERT

Kamloops, British Columbia

Jake Conkin (producer),
S.2 - C.1, RR#1, Old Cutter Ranch,
Slocan Park, B.C.
VOG 2E0

(bus. & res.) (604)-226-7694

"Part of the Kemloops Centennial Celebration Event, this is a celebration of the life and times of the Canadian cowboy and cowgirl, with emphasis on the ‘Canadian’. Poetry, acoustic music, songsters, instrumentalists, yodellers, storytellers."

July 3 and 4, 1983

OLD WEST FEST!

Williams Lake, British Columbia

Jake Conkin (producer),
S.2 - C.1, RR#1, Old Cutter Ranch,
Slocan Park, B.C.
VOG 2E0

(bus. & res.) (604)-226-7694

"A complimentary event to the Williams Lake Stampede, it features afternoon and evening performances, including a full concert of feature performers (two hours long) each night, also a trappings show, a visual arts presentation of
everything cowboy/girl, including western artists, saddlemakers, braidiers, silversmiths, etc."

July 3 to 11, 1993

HARRISON FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia

Sherry Evans (publicist),
P.O. Box 399 (160 Esplanade Ave.),
Harrison Hot Springs, B.C.
V0M 1K0

(bus.) (604)-796-3664
(Fax) (604)-796-3188

Annual since 1978

"The Harrison Festival of the Arts is a nine-day cross-cultural festival held throughout the small village of Harrison Hot Springs, and covers a full spectrum of art forms. Over 300 international, national and local artists take part in outdoor entertainment, theatre, concerts, workshops, lectures, demonstrations, literary readings, art exhibits and a juried art market. Featured music includes gospel, blues, reggae, jazz, and rhythms of the African, Caribbean and Latin beat."

July 16 to 18, 1993

VANCOUVER FOLK FESTIVAL

Jericho Beach Park, Vancouver, British Columbia

Valdine Ciwko (publicist),
3271 Main St.,
Vancouver, B.C.
V5V 3M6

(bus.) (604)-879-2931
(Fax) (604)-879-4315

Annual since 1978

"As befits a festival which has been something of a trail blazer with eclectic international programs and a commitment to contemporary artists with something to say, the 16th festival will, in the tradition of the destination sign on Ken Kesey’s bus, go ‘Further’. There will be something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue. A combination of 16 years’ experience and the incredible wealth of artists who identify with that much-maligned term ‘folk music’ is a blend that’s well on the way to producing a festival that once again we will say is ‘the best yet’!

July 22 to 25, 1993

ISLANDS FOLK FESTIVAL

Providence Farm, Duncan, B.C.

Cathryn Wellner, Richard Wright,
Box 802,
Duncan, B.C.
V9L 3Y1

(bus.) (604)-748-3975
(FAX) (604)-748-7896

"Rated one of Canada’s top festivals by SOCAN, the Islands Folk Festival is a true performer’s festival, offering warm hospitality and receptive audiences. Though the range of music is wide, the festival focusses on traditional music, broadly interpreted to include an eclectic spectrum of folk expression. This year the festival opens with a special concert July 22nd. A weekend of first rate entertainment."