

Highlander arts



From left: Doug Cox, Kim Richey and Linda McRae of the roots-acoustic trio The Primary Colours. Photos submitted by Marie Gage.

The Primary Colours to perform in Minden

By Felix Wong

Marie and Donald Gage will be hosting the newly-formed roots-acoustic trio, The Primary Colours, at a house concert on Aug. 20. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. at 1175 Shuyler's Island Rd. in Minden and feature Kim Richey, Doug Cox and Linda McRae.

The Primary Colours features "sublimely talented roots-acoustic musicians who merge beautiful harmony vocals with striking instrumental prowess, resulting in a full spectrum of songs with unique depth and resonance," said Marie Gage. "They're at that point in their careers where they've nothing left to prove, egos get put aside and it's all about serving the song and honouring the audience.

Richey is a songwriter who's been nominated for two Grammy awards and released seven critically-acclaimed albums. In addition to having written hits for Rodney Foster and Trisha Yearwood, the Nashville-based artist has also appeared as a harmony singer on Jason Isbell, Rodney Crowell, Ryan Adams' albums and more.

Multi-instrumentalist Cox is a master of the guitar, the mandolin, the Dobro and the Weissenborn. He's had the opportunity to perform with musical stars such as Ellen McIlwaine, Amos Garrett and the Mighty Popo, playing an eclectic assortment of musical styles from New Orleans funk to Texas twang.

Nashville-based McRae rounds out the trio with her multi-instrumentalist skill on the clawhammer banjo, acoustic and electric guitars, accordion, bass, and foot percussion. She is best known for having been a part of the Canadian musical supergroup, Spirit of the West and is the creator of the Express Yourself Writing Workshops currently being presented to at-risk youth and inmates across North America.

"As this will be our second concert ever, we are very excited about this performance," said McRae. "We will be playing some originals in addition to some songs people will recognize. We have each chosen a number of our favourite songs to round out our set list and it's been so much fun working on all the songs and getting our parts down."

It was through McRae's friendship with the Gages that this concert came to fruition. After getting word that The Primary Colours would be making stops at Owen Sound and Prince Edward County on their tour this year, Gage reached out to the trio and asked if they'd like to perform a house concert in Minden.

"They are wonderful hosts and have become great friends. I always look forward to seeing them," said McRae about the Gages. "They have a lovely, lakefront log home and their space itself is wonderful to play in with its high ceilings, stone fireplace and all that wood."

Tickets cost \$20 at the door and all the proceeds will go to the performers.

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