

# ROSE COUSINS <https://www.rosecousins.com>

**from Prince Edward Island / Halifax**

**FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 3RD**

*[I have loved Rose's music for a long time. Until I saw her play live I did not realise how very funny she is too! I am thrilled that Rose is coming to Pender with her band. Rose sings from the heart, her lyrics are up close, intense and personal, Come and be moved.]*



“ROAD TO THE JUNOS” <https://youtu.be/jmJXxVeerVo?si=Eru2mfOdvK4LRmnH>

“THE RETURN, LOVE COMES BACK” <https://youtu.be/G3iUVIzvWwk?si=rLkJLdv0KffxnE49>

“CHOSEN” <https://youtu.be/mGRJMh5SI7s?si=TtykU85rYwr0A34E>

September 27, 2024 – Acclaimed Canadian folk singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist **Rose Cousins** has announced her new album, *Conditions of Love, Vol. 1*, will be released on **March 14, 2025** (pre-save [HERE](#)). With this news, she shares her uplifting new single and one she calls the album’s cornerstone, “**I Believe in Love (and it’s very hard)**,” along with her April 2025 headline tour dates across Canada.

Listen to “I Believe in Love (and it’s very hard)” : <https://rosecousins.ffm.to/ibelieveinlove>

On her new album, Rose holds her listeners’ hands as she guides them on a journey through the "conditions of love." Ever the emotional explorer, the Nova-Scotia-based artist seeks truth, in all its imperfection, in the depths of humans’ most complicated of emotions: love. The journey results in a striking clarity, and it’s the gift of that clarity that brings on surprising tears.

Rose shares, “*Love feels great and makes us ridiculous. It's tiring and intense, joyful and devastating. Falling in love, being in love and staying in love are all such different things. Being human is emotionally complicated enough without attempting to relate to another who is just as complex, and in the most vulnerable of arenas: romance. Love is wondrous and absurd (and very hard). Humour helps.*”

Co-produced with trusted friend and longtime bandmate Joshua Van Tassel, *Conditions of Love, Vol. 1* sees Rose return to her first love, the piano. “*Piano is where I feel the most connected. It’s the best partner in expressing the emotion I’m mining,*” she shares. She first introduced the upcoming body of work with the gorgeous, piano-driven ballad “[Forget Me Not,](#)” followed by the slow-burning, nostalgic “[Borrowed Light.](#)”

Rose Cousins’ songwriting plumbs the depths of the human condition. Her work has garnered her two JUNO Awards (2013’s *We Have Made a Spark* & 2021’s *Bravado*), two Canadian Folk Music Awards, eleven East Coast Music Awards and one Grammy nomination (2018’s *Natural Conclusion*), along with praise from the likes of the CBC, *No Depression*, *LA Times*, *Associated Press*, *Billboard*, *Folk Alley*, and NPR, who raved “Cousins’ disarmingly fluid vocal tone has the ability to convey the most internalized feelings without an ounce of fuss.” Over the years, she

has shared stages with Patty Griffin, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Jann Arden, Kathleen Edwards, Joe Henry and Anais Mitchell, and her music has fittingly underscored scenes from notable TV shows including Grey's Anatomy, Fire Country, Batwoman and Heartland.

## QUOTES

*“Her ability to see through the pain and bleakness of the world to find the light that connects us all proves that she indeed has a fire that burns in her soul and catches to her music, art, and the world she’s so powerfully conscious of.”* – **No Depression**

*“The simplicity of these songs is deceiving; as sparse as they feel, her voice draws you in until you realize you are at the heart of the storm.”* – **The Guardian**

*“Cousins has a disarmingly fluid vocal tone and an ability to convey the most internalized emotions — disappointment, grief, resolve, forbearance — without an ounce of fuss.”* – **NPR Music**

*“deeply caresses her exquisite vocals through a dozen songs that form an exploratory, intimate meditation on the mysteries of being human: identity, frailty, relationships, the nature of love and spiritual connection”* – **LA Times**

*“When Rose Cousins sings she soars and swoops, never to show off but always in service to the song”* – **The Washington Post / AP**

*“Rose Cousins strips songs to their pointed and somber essence”* – **The Philadelphia Inquirer**



# THE BOOM BOOMS <https://theboombooms.com>

from Vancouver SATURDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

*[I knew about The Boom Booms via the Coldsnap Festival Folks in Prince George. Last year I found out that Tommy Van Deursen, whom I had come to know via him booking acts at The Mateada on Salt Spring, was actually the lead guitarist of the band! Pender, what can I say, it's going to be a fun night!]*



[https://youtu.be/God\\_zV-md4U?si=37YcO\\_smhGHZJ8kl](https://youtu.be/God_zV-md4U?si=37YcO_smhGHZJ8kl)

[https://youtu.be/RA3n1g\\_9ess?si=Z53M2VXvBdh5YYEs](https://youtu.be/RA3n1g_9ess?si=Z53M2VXvBdh5YYEs)

**The Boom Booms are a Canadian funk/soul band formed in Vancouver, BC in 2008. The group consists of Aaron Ross (lead vocals), Sean Ross (keys, vocals), Tom Van Deursen (guitar), Geordie Hart (bass), Richard Brinkman (drums), and Theo Vincent (percussion, drums). The band is an independent act that has toured internationally influencing the music scene in countries like Brazil, Spain, Canada, the U.S. and more. The bands' roots soul sound draws heavily from artists including Bill Withers, Damian Marley and the Buena Vista Social Club. They have a reputation for their high energy live performances and danceable music.**

**Friends from childhood, they released their debut album, Butterfly Man where the video for their feel-good party anthem, "When the Night", reached #6 on the Much More Music chart and was licensed for an episode of 90210. "Delivered", a surreal banjo ballad garnered an award for Best Roots Song at the Just Plain Folks Music Awards in Nashville, TN.**

**The Boom Booms released their debut album ;Hot Rum! which earned them a spot in The Peak Performance Project. They won second place picking up a cash prize of \$75,000, which enabled them to produce and release their travel documentary, Boom Boom Brazil. The documentary explores the rich and unpredictable adventures of an up-and-coming band on tour in Brazil and raises awareness of the Belo Monte Dam's impact.**

**THE LEE BOYS [www.theleeboys.com](http://www.theleeboys.com)**

# From The Southern States SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

*[The Lee Boys made a memorable stop to play on Pender last year after playing Musicfest and the Islands Folkfest on Vancouver Island. Pender won their hearts and I am delighted to bring them back again for The Crisp! All related this sacred steel band are looking forward to coming to their Canadian “home”]*



[https://youtu.be/FHISFJlwKoA?si=-3I74\\_bMVNPZWqGa](https://youtu.be/FHISFJlwKoA?si=-3I74_bMVNPZWqGa)

<https://youtu.be/QDCYpIe7Rp0?si=hUtqCPqodKwuCvur>



**The Lee Boys have taken their modern expression of Sacred Steel on the road and have become a pre-eminent touring ensemble**, performing for over 750,000 music fans at festivals throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia. Their music attracts audiences from the jam band, folk, blues and Gospel worlds.

The Lee Boys grew up in the church where their father was a pastor and a steel player himself. “Sacred Steel” is a type of music described as an inspired, unique form of Gospel music with a hard-driving, blues-based beat. The musical genre is rooted in Gospel, but infused with rhythm and blues, jazz, rock, funk, hip-hop, country and ideas from other nations.

When The Lee Boys bring their joyous spiritual sound to the stage, audiences instantly recognize that this is not “sitting and listening” music: dancing, shouting out, and having fun are considered essential parts of their tradition. Founder and bandleader Alvin Lee explains **“The inspiration and feeling that comes along with our music is the reason that people feel good.”**

These engaging artists work well in a variety of venues ranging from intimate club settings to performing arts centers to large festival stages. Their music attracts audiences from the jam band, folk, blues and Gospel worlds. Over the past 20 years, The Lee Boys have released four albums, packed prestigious venues, and spread their music and message beyond the church pews through residencies, recording studios and concerts across the world. Their unique sound has attracted musical artists such as Allman Bros. Band, B.B. King, Buddy Guy, Robert Plant, Robert Randolph, Derek Trucks, Mavis Staples, Gov’t Mule, Del McCoury, Traveling McCourys, Victor Wooten, Blind Boys of Alabama, Black Crowes, John Legend, and The Roots – all of whom have performed with the Lee Boys and/or invited them to tour with them

**The Chicago-Sun Times compared the band to Jimi Hendrix, saying:**

"The Lee Boys, whose Church of God-inspired sacred steel music may be what Jimi Hendrix had in mind with his grand plan for 'electric sky church music.' Part Robert Randolph, part Holmes Brothers, the Miami quintet sang the praises while whipping the crowd into a frenzy with hypnotic grooves, innovative pedal-steel/lead guitar interplay and funky rhythms."

**PIERRE SCHRYER, ADAM DOBRES AND DANIELLE ENBLOM**

<https://www.schryerdobres.com>

From Vancouver Island SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2PM,

## COMMUNITY / FAMILY DANCE

*[We still claim Adam as Pender's own even if he made the move off island, for very good reasons, and this time Adam returns with Pierre [ no stranger either ] and Danielle for an afternoon hour's dance at The Hall! Dance with us!*

*Irish, Scottish, Québécois, Métis, and Contra social dance]*



<https://youtu.be/swgk0iM46pU?si=AFoOBaEmz5Rd593u>

[https://youtu.be/k2yGynh29V8?si=kh\\_kTth5nNcmyML6](https://youtu.be/k2yGynh29V8?si=kh_kTth5nNcmyML6)



This phenomenal trio of Celtic musicians features Franco-Ontarian fiddler **Pierre Schryer**, North American folk dance specialist **Danielle Enblom**, and European influenced BC guitarist **Adam Dobres**. The group brings together three diverse music careers laden with nominations and diplomas including JUNO, Canadian Folk Music Awards, Western Canadian Music Awards, as well as a Diploma in Traditional Irish Music (UCC). The trio manifests a true presence on stage that openly shares the muse of their music-making and their rhythmic creations. Schryer & Dobres first connected in Victoria, BC through various collaborative festival and recording projects. Today, making this group a super trio, is Minnesota step dancer Danielle Enblom who performs the old Irish dancing master traditions, along with some flavours of her own Métis and Québécois heritage. This exceptional ensemble performs an eclectic array of musical gems from across the globe including traditional and contemporary tunes in various styles from far reaching places including Ireland, Scotland, Algeria, Brazil, Quebec, USA and more. The trio continues to appear at national and international festivals from the Pacific to the Atlantic and beyond, and they are most always honoured with a standing ovation wherever they perform. The show will surely delight - **Schryer, Enblom & Dobres** is a tour de force of versatility, fine musicianship and technical dexterity!

### **Pierre Schryer** - *Fiddle, Foot Percussion*

Pierre Schryer is one of Canada's leading traditional fiddlers. A recipient of numerous titles and awards including Canadian Open Fiddle Champion, Grand Masters Champion, Violoneux Championnat, and North American Irish Fiddle Champion, Pierre truly captivates an audience with his energy and genuine warmth. His ability knows no bounds, covering styles from Irish, Scottish, Québécois, and Cape Breton to Canadian Old Time, American Swing and more. In the mid-90s, Pierre Schryer Band built an international reputation as one of Canada's most well respected traditional music ensembles by touring throughout Canada, the USA, Ireland, Europe and the UK. Pierre has shared the stage with hundreds of internationally renowned colleagues in the traditional music scene and has performed with numerous orchestras across Canada with his acclaimed Symphony Pops show. Of his seven recordings released on his own label New Canadian Records, "Blue Drag" was nominated at the 2004 JUNO Awards for best Roots and Traditional (Group) Album of the Year, "Mélange" at the 2008 Canadian Folk Music Awards for Instrumental Solo Album of the Year, and "2 Worlds United", a brilliant duo album with top Irish button accordionist Dermot Byrne, was distributed worldwide by Claddagh Records. In 2019, Schryer teamed up with BC guitarist Adam Dobres and released "Mandorla." The album was nominated at the 2020 Canadian Folk Music Awards as well as at the 2020

Western Canadian Music Awards. Pierre's talents extend beyond his musical abilities, he's an accomplished luthier and artist currently performing on one of his own violins and bows. Pierre Schryer, as producer, also created and directed his own festival "Canadian Celtic Celebration," in Thunder Bay, Ontario from 2000 to 2017. Dedicated to passing on the tradition, Pierre teaches at numerous fiddle camps and retreats, and is committed to creating community through traditional music sessions, community dances and collaborative projects wherever he resides.

### **Danielle Enblom - *Step dance (Gigue)***

Danielle Enblom is a dance historian, choreographer, sean-nós Irish dancer, and award-winning step dancer and jigger from Mni Sota Makoce - Minneapolis, Minnesota. She is Red River Métis with strong French Canadian and Swedish ancestral roots. Danielle has shared the stage throughout North America and Europe with many of the world's top traditional musicians including Altan, Lunasa, Liz Carroll, Alex Kusturok, Eileen Ivers, Julie Fowlis, Enda Scahill (We Banjo 3), Seamus Egan (Solas), and Cherish the Ladies. She recently appeared in the world premiere of Canada's first full-scale Indigenous-led Opera, *Li Keur: Riel's Heart of the North*. Danielle holds a research-based master's degree in Ethnochoreography (dance anthropology) from Munster Technological University, Ireland, and a Diploma in Traditional Irish Music from University College Cork, Ireland. She has studied with tradition bearers across genres and cultures including Irish, Métis, French Canadian, Appalachian, American Tap, and Ottawa Valley. Described as "wild, refined, and joyful" by Deirdre Cronin of Irish Music Magazine and "nothing short of spectacular" by legendary Irish musician and academic, Mick Moloney, Danielle brings a unique, inspired, embodied and authentic intersection of traditions and cultures to her work as a performer, researcher, and teacher. Danielle's recent works include *Cumar*, a project with master West African drummers and dancers (choreographer and dancer) and *The Bad Neighbors Rhythm Project* with New York-based master Irish bodhrán player, Anna Colliton, which had its debut at the New York Trad Festival in 2022.

### **Adam Dobres – *Guitar* <https://www.adamdobres.com>**

Adam Dobres is a highly accomplished guitarist with a natural ability to embody any style of music. He is equally at home with Bluegrass, Celtic, Jazz, Gypsy, Country, Folk, Old Time, Rock, Blues, and more. His love of the electric and acoustic guitar has taken him around the globe, performing throughout North America, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. With a taste for

experimenting with personal style and a love of touring, Adam has embarked on living his dream. From playing Celtic music with some of Canada's finest fiddle players including Daniel Lapp and Pierre Schryer, Adam has branched out to Pop Rock with Grammy Nominee Toni Childs (including an Australian tour where they opened for the legendary Jackson Brown), performed with renowned musicians playing exotic instruments such as the Sitar, Turkish Lira and African Kora, and toured North America with Old Time string band Outlaw Social. Adam was part of The Dustin Bentall outfit when they performed at the Opening Ceremonies of the 2010 Winter Olympics and supported Blue Rodeo on their 2010 Canadian tour. In 2011, Adam joined the Ruth Moody Band, and along with this dynamic folk vocalist and her all-star band has toured Europe, Canada and the US, and has released several albums. Well versed in the recording process, Adam was the musical engineer and producer for a meaningful project with Sarah Van Borek in creating the "One Voice" video. The video was part of the SFU Public Square "Alone Together" conference focussing on bridging the gap of cultural isolation and disconnection within the Vancouver community. In the last few years, Adam released two self-produced solo albums - an eclectic mix of his own compositions revealing his many influences and his absolute grace and superb versatility on the guitar.

**WILLY BLIZZARD** <https://www.willyblizzard.com>

From Pender Island/ Vancouver

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> daytime time tba**

*[Andrea and John are long time supporters of The Arts on Pender contributing to the island's vibrant music scene over many years. It has been my pleasure to have known them for some time and I am delighted to have them lead attendees in their own songs and covers.]*



**Willy Blizzard** is riding a musical journey that remains true to their roots.

A touring band from Vancouver and Pender Island, the acoustic duo [and as a trio] plays original music in the folk/roots genre featuring beautiful vocal harmonies, guitars, banjo and stand-up bass. Their original music is included on the album “Celebrating the Best in BC Music”.

**John Hough – lead vocalist, guitar, van driver**

**Andrea Law – upright bass, piano, washboard, vocals, boss**



The duo is fronted by **principal songwriter / vocalist John Hough**, “the richest baritone west of The Rockies” (Vancouver Province). Winning his first singing competition as an underage performer in Toronto’s old Cariboo Club, John has performed at every major folk festival in B.C. In a classic Canadian twist of fate, his music appears in Gordon Lightfoot’s only feature film.



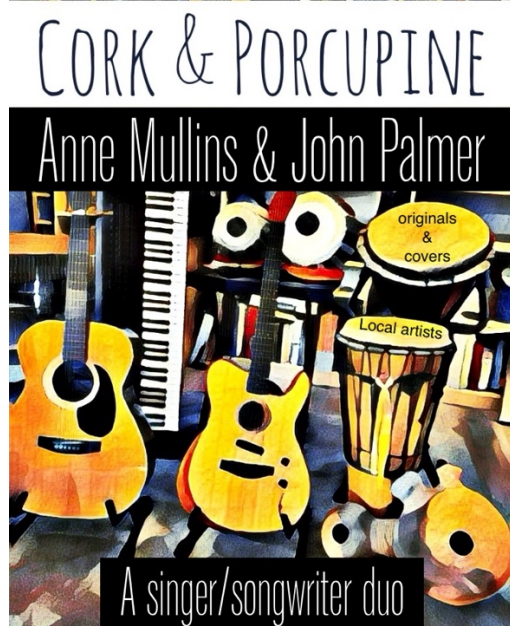
As the principal songwriter and vocalist for Willy Blizzard, Hough's music has garnered airplay on many CBC Radio programs like **North By Northwest, Morningside** (Peter Gzowski), **The Early Edition, Vicki Gabereau, Folksounds** (KBCS). A true nature lover since long before today's environmental movement took hold, John draws deeply from his academic background in Life Science and Environmental Education. The song "Hallie" was nominated for Best Canadian Lyric for its use of the term *sympiotic parasite*. **Bassist Andrea Law** is a third generation professional musician who brings great stage presence and impeccable rhythm to Willy Blizzard. Andrea honours the memory of her father's and grandfather's musical careers. Keeping the beat with wit and humour, Andrea has found the perfect dance partner in her big bass bull fiddle.

## CORK AND PORCUPINE

From Pender Island

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 7PM**

*[I first heard Anne and John at Sarah Rae and Ben McConchie's Open Mic at Hope Bay on Pender. I did not know what to expect. I was so pleasantly surprised! So pleased they will play for The Crisp]*



Cork & Porcupine are Anne Mullins and John Palmer.

They play their original songs on a variety of acoustic and electronic instruments. They love to collaborate, striving for songs with fresh melodies and thoughtful lyrics.

They are passionate about fresh language in their lyrics.

They love twists and turns-of-phrase and in points-of-view.

Music, to John and Anne, is an emotional experience, so their delivery aims to move people.

As retired music teachers, they are both schooled in Western folk and classical traditions, plus West African music. They were weaned on the diversity of popular music and jazz of the

1960s and 70s, along with their “parents music” from the jazz era is all in their blood. That is to say their sound is primarily acoustic in tone, and eclectic in style.

They celebrate rhythm, harmony and open tunings, equally.

They like contrast and variety in a set, so play several instruments to supply their audience with ear-candy.

## **JACK MARTIN from Pender Island**

**YOUNG PIPER EXTRAORDINAIRE!**

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS OPENING!**

*[We on Pender Island have our OWN Pipe Band! Jack popped up this past year, who knew?? The talent our island has! Jack will open up each night with a couple of wee tunes]*



<https://youtu.be/qrHTAna3Xdo?si=sxMiZjRSbpiciWOD>

**WATCH FOR MORE INFO COMING ON  
PANELISTS, VISUAL ARTISTS, WORKSHOPS!**