



MARK PERRY

NORTHERN CANADIAN SINGER-SONGWRITER

Music Genre: Contemporary Folk/Roots/Singer-Songwriter
Band Instruments: Guitar, Pedal Steel, Accordion, Bass, Violin
RIYL: Steve Earle Gordon Lightfoot Bruce Springsteen

EPK

A dozen albums strong, Mark Perry is deeply loved in Canada for his good-humoured and thought-provoking performances that get festival audiences up on their feet and make theatre crowds feel like they're in his living room.

Perry's concerts are like a Canadian roadtrip as he sweeps you up in emotional and animated tales of sinking ferries, rural renegades, NHL dreams, or buying a car for "two cords of wood and 24 beer". Towns dying, towns being born, small planes going down... this Canadian singer-songwriter draws us in to reflect and to laugh as he pays tribute to real characters and events in Canada. His music has an energy that connects us from coast to coast.

"New Jersey has Springsteen, New York has Billy Joel, northern BC has Mark Perry. These are the storytellers of their times and places," salutes music reviewer Frank Peebles in the Prince George Citizen.

Perry has been writing, recording and performing since the mid-1990s when he produced his first album with Roy Forbes and Shari Ulrich, then headed out on to tour with Connie Kaldor as her opening show. It wasn't long before he was selling out his own theatre shows. He has a cult following in northwest Canada where fans age 16 to 76 sell out his concerts and sing along to every song. Perry's audience stretches around the globe and his songs are getting a new rush of international airplay on folk radio shows in places like New Zealand, the UK, and across North America— from Alabama to New Jersey to Texas to Alaska.

Perry is currently touring with a talented cast of musical compadres including Mark Thibeault (Hungry Hill), Tobin Frank (Spirit of the West), Ian Olmstead (Alex Cuba) and Mip (Mip Power Trio). With 12 albums recorded and another in the wings, Perry has a huge repertoire of both contemplative and lively songs to draw from; he'll transfix you with a dirt road ballad one minute, and have you cutting a rug to a river-rising frolic the next.

As a kid growing up in a small northern BC town in the 70s, Perry got his start when he tuned in to the scratchy, barely audible, late night radio waves coming from Vancouver and heard CCR, the Rolling Stones, Eric Burdon and Gordon Lightfoot. He traded an old lawnmower for what he calls an "electric(ish) guitar" and into the neighbour's basement he went - guitar in hand. He earned his calluses playing consecutive 6-nighters with his road band, and started writing and crafting his own popular songs. In between raising a family and working for the Canadian railroad, he recorded and performed to a growing fan base.

These days Perry is focussed on writing and creating music in his home-based studio and runs a small horse farm with his wife Jane in a beautiful mountain valley outside Smithers BC.

WHAT OTHERS SAY...

"Mark Perry had our audience captivated through the entire show. His heart shines through in his voice and his songs. Mark Perry's performance is a 'must-see' and a 'must-see again'."
~ Bruce Champion, Terrace Concert Society

"Mark Perry is to the Northwest what Gord Downie was to Canada - he captures our hearts by telling our stories in a way no one else does."
~ Nathan Cullen, MP Skeena-Bulkley Valley

"The soundtrack for my life is taken from Mark Perry's music. His song-writing, musical expression and stage presence emanates the very best, most magical qualities.... Perry's music invites me in to sit by his fire and feel like a cherished neighbour for a while."
~ Carolina DeRyk, Host, CBC Radio

"This singer/songwriter from Smithers is one of our finest. In a world of so much artifice, he's one of the real things."
~ J.P.M., The Province, Vancouver, BC

TO BOOK or for MORE INFO:
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EPK: <https://www.plaidpeoplemusic.com/markperry/>
MUSIC <http://markperry.ca/collection/>
VIDEO <http://markperry.ca/#videos>
PHOTOS <http://markperry.ca/epk/#photos>

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RECENT PRESS...

2019 ROOTS MUSIC CANADA TOP 10 STORIES OF THE YEAR

"Exclusive preview: A veteran artist from northern BC, Mark got attention from well beyond the Smithers area with this song inspired by the Humboldt Broncos bus crash."

<https://www.rootsmusic.ca/2019/12/31/our-10-most-popular-stories-from-2019/>

2019 STEVE RAMM AMAZON REVIEW

"This Canadian singer-songwriter – hits the bullseye with 20 (!) original songs on this Album..."

<https://www.amazon.com/Recollections-Mark-Perry/dp/B07NF779HK>

2019 BLAST TORONTO

"Toronto was really lucky to have received the rare appearance of British Columbia's Mark Perry. He played a very intimate show at the Tranzac..."

<http://blasttoronto.com/holy-smithereens-its-mark-perry/>

2018 PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN

"New Jersey has Springsteen, New York has Billy Joel, northern B.C. has Mark Perry. These are the storytellers of their times and places..."

<https://tinyurl.com/y5hb5pa8>

2018 CBC BRITISH COLUMBIA

"I'd love to one day be as famous as he is in Smithers," says Juno-winning Alex Cuba of hometown music hero (Mark Perry)..."

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/mark-perry-11-albums-1.4568804>

RECENT TOURING

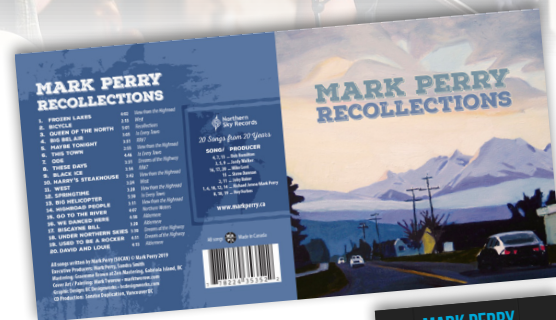
Mark Perry performs 12-20 concerts/year & tailors his program to the venue (seated vs. danceable spaces) & audience demographics, geography & topics of interest.

In the past few years, tours have included:

- *soft-seat theatres ranging in size from Terrace's REM Lee Theatre (700 seats) to Smithers' Della Herman Theatre (300 seats) to Calgary's Nickelodeon (200) to Toronto's Tranzac (150), to Hazelton's Hazelbranch (60 seats).*

- *festivals & community hall shows with audiences ranging in size from 2,000 at the BV Exhibition, 1,900 per day at the Filberg Festival to 500 at Butchart Gardens and 150 at Glenwood Hall.*

- *performing in communities with populations ranging in size from Toronto (2.9 million), Calgary (1.3 million), Prince George (75,000), Comox (15,000) to rural towns like Houston BC (3,000), Fort St James (1,700) & Hazelton (270).*



DISCOGRAPHY...

- 2019 Cold Road (Jordy Walker)
- 2019 Recollections (collection)
- 2018 Right Here (Jordy Walker)
- 2016 Northern Waters (Steve Dawson)
- 2013 People & Places (Jordy Walker)
- 2011 West (Joby Baker)
- 2008 RR7 (Jordy Walker)
- 2005 In Every Town (Bob Hamilton)
- 2002 Aldermere (Mike Lent)
- 1999 View From The HighRoad (R. Jenne/M. Perry)
- 1996 Vera's Café (Hugh Macmillan)
- 1993 Still Around (Roy Forbes)
- 1990 Dreams of the Highway (Roy Forbes)

MARK PERRY SONGS RECORDED BY OTHER ARTISTS...

- 2018 "David & Louie", Rachele van Zanten, It's Christmas in These Parts 1
- 2016 "Mosquito Madness", Rachele van Zanten, Little Spruce

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