

For Immediate Release:

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The SheepDogs

Performing at the 2016

40th Annual Norfolk Harborfest®

The Largest, Longest-Running, FREE Maritime Festival in the Nation!

June 9-12, 2016 on the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront

Norfolk, Virginia (March 14, 2016) –Norfolk Festevents announces National Recording Artist The SheepDogs to appear on Friday, June 10, 2016, at the 40th Annual Norfolk Harborfest® at Town Point Park, along the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront, Virginia.

The 40th Annual Norfolk Harborfest® transforms the downtown Norfolk waterfront into a distinctive, FREE, family-friendly fun outdoor extravaganza stocked full with activities on land and sea! Norfolk Harborfest® includes majestic tall ships in the Parade of Sail, one of the largest waterfront fireworks shows on the East Coast, local, regional and national entertainment, family activities, unique and unusual performances, water activities and much more.

National Recording Artist The SheepDogs to appear Friday, June 10, 2016, on the Boathouse Stage:

The SheepDogs

Trends come and go, styles fall in and out of fashion, but The Sheepdogs remain steadfast in their commitment to rock n' roll excellence. Since their inception, the band has always sought to play the kind of music they themselves love: "Pure, simple, good-time music," as singer/guitarist Ewan Currie puts it. It's no surprise, then, that the band's fifth LP, Future Nostalgia, is firmly rooted in the rock tradition that listeners have come to expect from the boys.

The idea was simple: find a nice, quiet, secluded place and make a record packed with all the hot guitar licks and sing-along choruses they could muster. So the band holed up in a rented house in the remote, idyllic setting of Stony Lake, Ontario, and set about creating a studio where they could work all hours of the day. "We wanted to cut out all the noise and get back to a place where we could just fully immerse ourselves in music," says Currie, who took on production duties for the album. "We worked hard, but we also made sure to keep it loose and have ourselves a good time."

Future Nostalgia is the middle ground between the JUNO-winning, platinum-certified Learn & Burn, which spawned the rock radio staple "I Don't Know," and its equally successful follow-up, 2012's The Sheepdogs, featuring the instantly-recognizable, Gold-certified singles "Feeling Good" and "The Way It Is."

The former was recorded by Currie and the band in their hometown of Saskatoon before they were propelled to fame as the first unsigned band to grace the cover of Rolling Stone, pressure free and at their own pace. Its follow-up, however, recorded in Nashville with producer and Black Keys drummer Patrick Carney, was a much more formal and rigid studio experience. This time, the band aimed to combine the successes and lessons learned from these opposite ends of the recording spectrum.

Future Nostalgia builds upon The Sheepdogs' foundation of feel-good vocal harmonizing and nasty guitar jamming. "Our musical journey has been about trying to find how we sound our best," states Currie, and the album represents the pinnacle of their progress thus far. That's made immediately clear from the opening riff of "Downtown," an undeniable straight-up rocker that sparkles with the warmth of summer. Down at the other end of the street is "Bad Lieutenant," which walks a dark and sexy strut courtesy of bassist Ryan Gullen and drummer Sam Corbett, who also tear up the furious "I Really Wanna Be Your Man."

Newcomers Rusty Matyas and Ewan's brother Shamus Currie, on guitar and keys respectively, bring a new spirit to the wistful back porch vibes of "Same Old Feeling" or the brooding melancholy of "Jim Gordon." Elsewhere, the ominous groove of "Help Us All" calls to mind the bleak violence of Blood Meridian as sung by Sly & the Family Stone, punctuated by a devastating trombone solo from Shamus.

Now, The Sheepdogs are eager to embark on the next leg of their journey, which will involve many miles logged and stages played. "I'm excited for people to hear the album, because it's a labour of love," Currie says proudly. "Now, it's just about getting it out there and getting people into it."

From their cramped Saskatchewan jam space to gold and platinum records and shows with rock icons, The Sheepdogs haven't strayed from their goal of sharing pure, passionate rock n' roll with anyone who'll listen – and Future Nostalgia is packed with it.



Additional Harborfest performances include:

Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Thursday, June 9, 2016

The Subdudes, Friday, June 10, 2016

Grace Potter, Friday, June 10, 2016

The Last Bison, Saturday, June 11, 2016

Rick Springfield, Saturday, June 11, 2016

Oh Honey, Saturday, June 11, 2016

The Drifters, Cornell Gunter's Coasters, and The Platters, Sunday, June 12, 2016

The Wailers, Sunday, June 12, 2016

Additional local, regional and national performances will be announced in the coming weeks.

Festival hours: Thursday, June 9th from 8:00-10:00pm, Friday, June 10th from Noon – 11 pm, Saturday June 11th from Noon – 11 pm, and Sunday, June 12th from 10:00am – 6 pm.

The **40th Annual Norfolk Harborfest®** presented by AT&T, is produced by Norfolk Festevents, Ltd. and sponsored by the City of Norfolk, Southern Auto Group, Lumos Networks, Miller Lite, Norfolk Waterfront Marriott, Virginia Lottery, and CFE Equipment.

Norfolk Festevents, Ltd., based in Norfolk, Virginia, is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating the most dynamic urban waterfront community in America through innovative programming and imaginative uses of its historic waterfront spaces. An extensive 10 month schedule of diverse outdoor cultural events, festivals, concerts, entertainment, holiday programs, tall ship visits, sports and recreation are presented in two popular and welcoming waterfront environments; Town Point Park located in downtown Norfolk on the banks of the Elizabeth River and Ocean View Beach Park situated on the shore line of the Chesapeake Bay. Norfolk Festevents has served as the City of Norfolk's official event marketing agency since the city's downtown waterfront revitalization initiatives began in 1982. The organization has garnered international acclaim for its advocacy for public access to waterfronts, outstanding quality programming and development of public spaces, transforming Norfolk into one of the most progressive, fun and livable waterfront communities in the country. Residents, workers, and visitors to Norfolk and the Hampton Roads region are invited to experience all the fun and excitement of the 2016 season!

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