

PRESS RELEASE

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newport rhode island

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Additional Artists Announced For Dunkin' Donuts® Newport Folk Festival 2007 Linda Ronstadt @ Tennis Hall of Fame Opening Night John Butler, Cheryl Wheeler and others Added to Fort Adams Events

Newport, RI--George Wein and The Festival Network are proud to announce the Dunkin' Donuts NEWPORT FOLK FESTIVAL 2007 program, from Friday, August 3rd through Sunday, August 5th. Only in Newport could the **Allman Brothers Band**; **Alison Krauss & Union Station** featuring **Jerry Douglas**; **Linda Ronstadt**; **Emmylou Harris**; the **North Mississippi Allstars**; **Amos Lee**; the **John Butler Trio**; **Alejandro Escovedo**, **Ralph Stanley**, **Cheryl Wheeler**, **The Dirty Dozen Brass Band**, and many more, come together in a blockbuster array of talent that celebrates the best in blues, in bluegrass, and all the folk in between.

"This is a landmark year for us because we're able to explore so many different styles of music," said Associate Producer Nalini Jones. "On Saturday, we're in a world of blues, roots, even a little New Orleans-style brass band music. Sunday is a gathering of the absolute best in bluegrass, with **Alison Krauss & Union Station**; **Hazel Dickens**; and the one and only **Ralph Stanley**. We also have an incredible lineup of songwriters with **Emmylou Harris**, **Alejandro Escovedo**, **Amos Lee**, **Cheryl Wheeler**, and **Elvis Perkins**. It's a broad expanse, but we think true music lovers will find something in every set to treasure."

The weekend begins Friday, August 3rd at the International Tennis Hall of Fame with **An Evening with Linda Ronstadt**. The ten-time Grammy® Winner comes to Newport for the first time with a full-length concert of her greatest hits – songs that have helped shape American music for more than three decades.

On Saturday, August 4th, the Festival moves to Fort Adams State Park for a historic lineup that features, for the very first time at Newport, the **Allman Brothers Band** (in a full concert-length set). They're joined by the **North Mississippi Allstars**, who bring their "world boogie" to a program that crackles with blues and roots rock. The **John Butler Trio** comes all the way from Australia to make its Newport debut, with dazzling, blues-tinged slide guitar. **Grace Potter & the Nocturnals** return in an encore performance after their smash set in 2006. New Orleans' own **The Dirty Dozen Brass Band** bring the sounds of the Big Easy to the Rhode Island shore in the wake of their groundbreaking release, *What's Going On*, an interpretation of Marvin Gaye's 1971 classic.

On the Harbor Stage, musician and activist **Tom Morello** (the Grammy® award-winning guitarist for Rage Against the Machine) comes to Newport Folk in his brand new solo incarnation, the **Nightwatchman**. **Assembly of Dust**, led by singer/songwriter and Strangefolk co-founder Reid Genauer, will give Allman fans something to cheer about with songs from their new album *Recollection*. Singer-songwriter **Martha Wainwright** comes to the festival after a stint at the Royal Opera House in London as the lead in their spring production *Seven Deadly Sins*. She joins her aunt, **Sloane Wainwright**, in a song circle (with another artist, TBA). Brooklyn-based **Phonograph** opens the stage with a lively shot of rustic rock and alt-country.

The Waterside Stage will once again host artists from different maritime provinces in Eastern Canada. Among those featured are **Vishten**, an internationally acclaimed French-Acadian sextet from Prince Edward Island, known for its fiery fiddle playing and step-dancing. (Other artists, TBA.)

Sunday, August 5th, brings the long-heralded return of **Alison Krauss** to the Newport stage. The bluegrass superstar and her band **Union Station**, featuring dobro wizard **Jerry Douglas**, will play an extended set in celebration of her many years as a festival favorite; she first came to the event more than twenty years ago (when she was only fourteen) in her major festival debut. Multi-Grammy® winner **Emmylou Harris**, one of the most compelling voices in American music, also returns in her only New England appearance of the season. **Amos Lee** brings his soulful folk-blues to Newport for the first time, following the widely acclaimed release of *Supply & Demand*, and touring stints with such artists as Bob Dylan, Norah Jones, Paul Simon and Merle Haggard. *No Depression* magazine's Artist of the Decade, **Alejandro Escovedo** is a music adventurer who has roamed through Latin and Chicano styles, punk rock, and alt-country, winning a huge underground following for songs such as those featured on the tribute album *Por Vida* (with performances by Lucinda Williams, John Cale and many more), and his latest *Boxing Mirror*. New string band sensation, the **Carolina Chocolate Drops**, are helping revive the banjo and fiddle tradition of rural African-American communities in the South.

On the Harbor Stage, the Festival welcomes banjo-picking legend **Ralph Stanley** and his **Clinch Mountain Boys** to the Newport stage for the first time since 1968! **Cheryl Wheeler**, longtime festival favorite, brings her unmistakable blend of humor and insight to contemporary folk songwriting. **Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem** play vintage swing, contemporary newgrass, Appalachian fiddle tunes, and their own original songs – a rich blend that Festival Producer Robert L. Jones considers “perfect for this event.” Songwriter **Elvis Perkins** has just released his debut *Ash Wednesday* to great acclaim; NPR calls the album “excellent,” with “timeless” songs (reflecting on his mother's death on one of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center).

The Waterside Stage features the great **Hazel Dickens**, known for her high lonesome style and for songs about workers that reflect her own upbringing in a West Virginia mining town. She performs (with **Dudley Connell**) in a song swap with **Diana Jones**, who set off at age 15 to Eastern Tennessee in search of her roots and ended up in Austin's vibrant music scene – journeys that inform the music of her 2006 album *My Remembrance of You*. Nashville-based singer-songwriter **Julie Lee** has two songs on Alison Krauss's April 2007 release, *A Hundred Miles or More*, and continues to write homespun gems, often based on family history. Mandolin player **Sierra Hull** may be known to fans of the Great High Mountain Tour, where Alison Krauss asked her to perform at the age of twelve. She comes to Newport with her own group, **Highway 111**.

Tickets & Information:

Tickets to “An Evening With Linda Ronstadt” at **8 pm, Friday, August 3rd** at the International Tennis Hall of Fame at the Newport Casino, 194 Bellevue Avenue, Newport, RI, are **\$85, \$65, \$50 and \$30**. **These tickets go on sale Wednesday, April 25 at 10 am.**

TICKETS for Saturday and Sunday, August 4 and 5 at Fort Adams State Park:

- 🎧 **Reserved seats are \$75 and will be sold for individual days only.** There is no child's price or two-day pass for the reserved seating section.
- 🎧 **General admission tickets** to Fort Adams State Park events August 4 and 5 are **\$55** for adults and **\$5** for children between 2 and 12 either day. Children under 2 will be admitted free of charge. Individual adult tickets go to **\$59** for Saturday or Sunday on festival weekend, if available. A limited number of **General Admission Adult 2-Day Saturday/Sunday tickets** will be sold for **\$95** while they last!
- 🎧 General admission tickets for all Fort Adams events are available at the Newport County Convention & Visitors Bureau located at 23 America's Cup Avenue in Newport.

THREE-DAY PASSES:

A limited number of **Three-Day Passes** are available for **\$135**. The Three-Day Package includes a reserved lawn seat at the Friday, August 3rd “Evening With Linda Ronstadt” [regularly priced at **\$65**] along with a General Admission ticket for each day [August 4 and 5] at Fort Adams State Park.

Tickets to Saturday and Sunday, August 4 and 5 are on sale now through TICKETWEB on-line at www.ticketweb.com, by phone at **866-468-7619**, and by mail. To order by mail, send a check or money order for the total ticket cost plus a \$4 handling charge per order to: Dunkin' Donuts Newport Folk Festival, P.O. Box 1221, Newport, RI 02840. Order forms are also available on the festival web site at: www.newportfolk.com. The Festival box office, located at 770 Aquidneck Avenue in Middletown, RI will open on April 25 at 10:00 am; **The festival hotline is: 401-847-3700.**

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