

LEGACY

Irish Traditional Music

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www.LegacyIrishMusic.com

Press Release

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Event: **Legacy** Michigan Tour 2008 – Irish Traditional Music

Dates: July 14-27, 2008

Website: www.LegacyIrishMusic.com

The traditional Irish music trio, *Legacy*, will be making their fifth summer tour of Michigan this July. The band hails from the Deep South (Jackson, Mississippi and Orlando Florida) and they are always eager to take their annual trek up North. This summer, *Legacy* will make more than a dozen appearances from Detroit to Mackinac Island and the Upper Peninsula during their two-week tour of the state.

“We so much look forward to visiting Michigan every year. It's great to have the opportunity to play in so many lovely places. It's absolutely beautiful country, and the South has *nothing* over Michigan in terms of hospitality!” says fiddler Valerie Plested. “Folks in Michigan really appreciate our music.” Maybe that's true in part because Michigan has strong Irish roots dating back to the frontier days. “Irish names are found all over Michigan--not just in the phone book but in the road signs!” (for example, Antrim, Clare, Roscommon & Wexford Counties).

Legacy draws the enthusiastic attention of Irish music fanatics wherever they play. Their music is a fine mix of instrumentals and songs from the Irish tradition. Their skill is undeniable, their arrangements complex and challenging, and their performances tight and energetic. Said *Dirty Linen* magazine: "This band fills the bill....a delicate combination of full-speed-ahead attack and subtle finesse."

For the summer of 2008, the band is performing in the classic power trio format (*An Triréad*). **Valerie Plested** (fiddle, vocals) is among the finest and most expressive young talents in the Southwest's Celtic scene. An exceptional musician, **Justin Murphy's** (flute, whistles, guitar, bodhrán, vocals) powerful tone on the flute and swaggering rhythm have been compared to such contemporary notables as Seamus Egan and Frankie Kennedy. At the heart of this trio configuration, Michigan native **Don Penzien's** (guitar, bodhrán, whistles, vocals) DADGAD guitarwork provides the solid, driving rhythms that have long been a hallmark of *Legacy* performances.

Len Holton, Director of the *Little Rock Folk Club*, said:

“This trio configuration has required some shift in the tasks undertaken by the various members, and to this challenge arose the already well-respected multi-instrumentalist, Justin Murphy. Blessed with a robust tenor voice, Justin proves equally dexterous with the stringed instrument as on the wind instruments and creates new space for the other members to contribute down new avenues to the customary *Legacy* sound of lush excellence. Given that Justin is taking on a role frequently adorned by nightingale-voiced/vocal power-house Betsy McGovern, you might be well impressed by this transition!” “Annual favourites at the North Texas Irish Festival for the past 15 years, *Legacy* are in the top flight of bands performing music from the Irish tradition, their loyal following regionally is both well-earned and well-deserved, and, in their current trio formation, underscores handsomely the veracity of the 'less is more' maxim.”

Legacy's will be releasing their new album, *Not Making Hay*, during this tour. The album is a fine mix of a dozen high-energy dance music and songs from the Irish tradition. Said reviewer Curt Marcus about their recent album, *An Triréad* ("the trio") "I have been listening to this new CD for hours on end, and it's really been a pleasure. The only thing better is *Legacy* live" (SCMA Ceili Vol. 26#2). Their album, *An Irish Christmas: Songs and Music from West Cork* (2007) also was an instant success.

A full listing of *Legacy's* tour dates and venues is available at: <http://www.LegacyIrishMusic.com/Calendar.htm>

For more information, contact *Legacy* at P.O. Box 4772, Jackson MS 39296, (601) 454-5573, e-mail: penzien@gmail.com or Seamus Shinnars, Connemara Concerts, <http://www.ConnemaraConcerts.com>, e-mail: info@connemaraconcerts.com

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