



March 30, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRST WAVE ARTISTS ANNOUNCED FOR VICTORIA SKA AND REGGAE FESTIVAL XVII

Greetings to all our Ska & Reggae massive, far and wide! We are reaching out today with some exciting news... THE FIRST WAVE OF ARTISTS FOR VICTORIA'S 17TH ANNUAL SKA & REGGAE FESTIVAL ARE HERE! Once again, we have scoured the globe to bring you one of the most diverse and exciting festival lineups of the summer.

From the other side of the Pacific, we welcome New Zealand reggae icons **The Black Seeds** and Australian vocal wizard **Dub FX**. Both acts have established themselves as live powerhouses, exciting audiences around the world and we are thrilled to have them headline shows at our signature venue, Ship Point at Victoria's historic Inner Harbour.

From below our southern borders, we are proud to present **Western Standard Time Ska Orchestra** (Los Angeles, USA) a big-band style supergroup forged through of a mutual shared love of ska pioneers the Skatalites. Featuring members of Hepcat, the Brian Setzer Orchestra, the Aggrolites and more, WTSO is doing the big work, infusing the ska rhythms with the bombast of big-band swing music. From even further south, Argentina's **Entangados** is on their way to entertain us with a stage show of unmatched energy and excitement.

With all this international flavour, rest assured we're still keeping things close to home with the finest homegrown reggae and ska bands the west coast has to offer. This year is no different as we welcome back bouncing gypsy wanderers **Tequila Mockinbird Orchestra** (Victoria), fun-loving ska peddlers **Dope Soda** (Nanaimo), genre-bending funksters **Bocce Avocado** (Victoria), the hazy dub reggae of **SweetLeaf** (Victoria) and the sweet, sunny roots vibes of the beloved **Tasman Jude** (Grand Prairie).

Back by popular demand, we've resurrected our **Amy Winehouse Extravaganza** for the festival this year. With members of the Ballantynes, the Tranzmitors, the Valuables and If We Are Machines, the Amy Winehouse Extravaganza will pay tribute to one of the titans of modern music, featuring a special vocal performance of Canada's "Queen of Ska" **The Fabulous LoLo of the Kingpins** (Montreal) and a drag performance from the fabulous Shanda Leer. Just like the first time, the homies in **Boomshack** (Nanaimo) will also be holding it down with originals and an Amy track or two of their own.

As always, this years Festival will use Ship Point at the Inner Harbour as its marquee venue, with other shows taking place at venues throughout the heart of downtown Victoria. As with previous years Victoria Ska & Reggae Festival XVII will feature a mix of ticketed and free events, including many all-ages shows, to allow more members of our extended Ska & Reggae family to enjoy the festivities.

THIS IS ONLY A TASTE OF WHAT WE HAVE IN STORE THIS YEAR. STAY TUNED FOR THE REST OF OUR LINEUP ANNOUCEMENT...COMING SOON!

FIRST WAVE ARTISTS FOR VICTORIA SKA & REGGAE FEST XVII

DUB FX (Australia)

THE BLACK SEEDS (New Zealand)

WESTERN STANDARD TIME SKA ORCHESTRA featuring past and present members of Hepcat, The Aggrolites, Brian Setzer Orchestra & more

TEQUILA MOCKINGBIRD ORCHESTRA (Victoria)

AMY WINEHOUSE EXTRAVAGANZA Featuring members from The Ballantynes, The Valuables, The Tranzmitors, Boomshack & special guest The Fabulous LoLo (of The Kingpins)

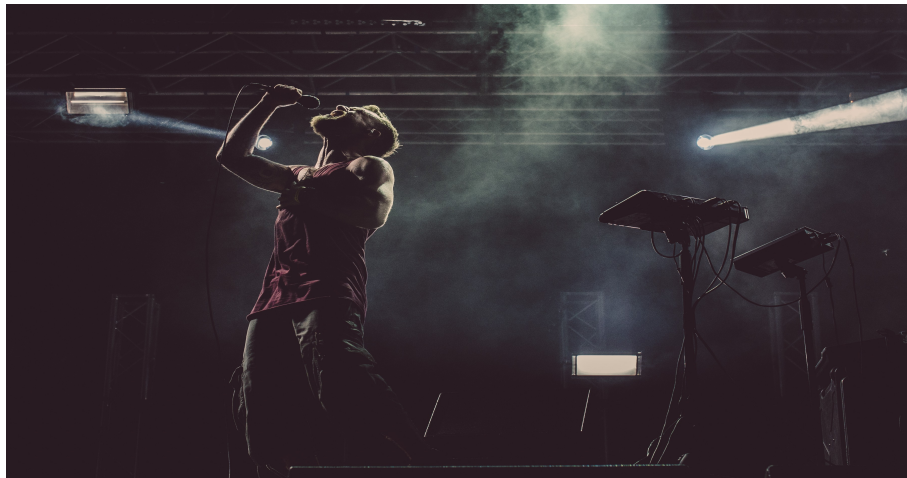
ENTANGADOS (Argentina)

DOPE SODA (Nanaimo)

BOCCE AVOCADO (Victoria)

SWEETLEAF (Victoria)

TASMAN JUDE (Grand Prairie)



Combo Passes Available Now:

Jupiter V.I.P. Full Fest Pass - \$179.50 *Early Bird* - \$225.00 *reg adv.* (Must be 19+ to purchase)

- **Guaranteed Access to all Ska & Reggae Festival shows including Rocksteady Collective programming up to two and a half hours after door time.**
- **Exclusive Access to Jupiter V.I.P Lounge for all Ship Point shows.**
- **Jupiter V.I.P Lounge includes side stage access, separate bar and separate bathroom.**

Full Fest Pass - \$125.00 *Early Bird* - \$149.50 *regular/adv.* (Must be 19+ to Purchase)

- **Access to all Ska & Reggae Festival presentations on a first come, first serve basis.**
- **Does NOT include access to Rocksteady Collective programming**

***NEW: Weekend Harbour Passes (Fri and Sat Harbour Shows) - \$55 – 59.50 + s/c**

Single Night Passes

Dub FX & guests - Friday, June 24, 2016 - \$29.50 - \$35 adv.+s/c

The Black Seeds, Western Standard Time Ska Orchestra & guests Saturday, June 25, 2016 - \$29.50 - \$35 adv. + s/c

VICTORIA SKA & REGGAE FESTIVAL XVII AT SHIP POINT INNER HARBOUR DETAILS

- **All Harbour shows ALL AGES**
- **Fully Licensed site for 19yrs+ w/ID.**
- **Kids 10 and under free of charge.**

TICKET LOCATIONS

ONLINE - TICKETWEB.CA

VICTORIA - Jupiter, Lyle's Place, Victoria Tourist Centre

VANCOUVER - Highlife Records, Red Cat Records, Beat Street Records

NANAIMO - Fascinating Rhythm

DUNCAN - Area 51

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victoriaskafest.ca

