



Media Release

For Immediate Release:
October 3rd, 2011

Russell deCarle

Lead vocalist of Prairie Oyster explores wide stylistic terrain in debut solo album

Friday, October 14th at 7:30 pm

St. Albert, AB – Russell deCarle, founding member of multi-platinum, Juno award winning country roots band Prairie Oyster, steps into the spotlight **October 14** at the **Arden Theatre** with his long awaited debut solo album, *Under the Big Big Sky*. After 36 years in the industry, the legendary vocalist, bassist, and songwriter pays homage to a wide cross-section of musical genres with an album that plays like that soundtrack to a vintage film.

“For people to hear a whole record of my material is a bit of a departure. Some might have been expecting an old-school country thing, but this is as much a part of me as country.”

~ Russell deCarle

Under the Big Big Sky celebrates the music and musicians who influenced Russell deCarle long before he began his career nearly four decades ago. With a style marking a definite, yet unintentional departure from his past work with Prairie Oyster, deCarle’s original solo material is an unflinching reflection of where he currently lives musically and literally. Having penned nine of the eleven songs on *Under the Big Big Sky*, Russell deCarle swaps his bass for an acoustic guitar and ventures into cabaret country with heavy doses of jazz, blues, and swing. Along with an impressive cast of players – Amos Garrett, David Wilcox, Kevin Breit, and Jim Cuddy – Russell deCarle’s solo debut is a compelling exploration of his singular voice as a songwriter.

As a solo artist, he has appeared on CBC TV’s Songwriters’ Circle, opened for Merle Haggard on his cross-Canada tour, traveled coast-to-coast with Bluebird North Songwriters’ Tour, and was a featured guest on Stuart McLean’s Vinyl Café Christmas Tour 2008. Russell deCarle has also appeared as a guest vocalist on numerous occasions (Bebop Cowboys, Rita Chiarelli, Terra Hazelton) and has won two SOCAN Song of the Year awards.

Tickets for Russell deCarle are **\$38** (plus facility fee). Visit the **Arden Theatre Box Office** in person (5 St. Anne Street), purchase by phone at 780-459-1542, or through Ticketmaster* at 1-855-985-5000 or ticketmaster.ca.

* *Agency fee in effect.*

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