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**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Leonard Cohen Night  
CBC RADIO ONE TO RECORD SEPT 23<sup>rd</sup> SHOW**

**EDMONTON – August 31<sup>st</sup> 2006** - *Leonard Cohen Night* just got bigger and better with the welcome news that **CBC Radio One** will record the September 23<sup>rd</sup> tribute to be held at La Cité francophone. “Mr. Cohen stands at the forefront of our great Canadian songbook. His music has a timeless appeal that reaches far beyond the boundaries of genre and culture” remarks Radio One executive producer Joe Fingerote, adding “I’m excited to hear the results on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, when the best of Cohen connects with the best of Alberta’.

In June, it was announced that the *Cohenights Arts Society* was presenting its annual tribute to the famous poet and singer in conjunction with the first *Edmonton Poetry Festival*. This association has been reaffirmed by the presence of known wordsmiths *Jocko* and *Myrna Garanis* to the show. They will be joining local recording artists *Colleen Brown*, *John Gorham*, *Jared Sewan* and *Ann Vriend* on stage, under the musical direction of *Jason Kodie*.

**A MEDIA LAUNCH will be held at CITY HALL  
on THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 7<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.**

**1<sup>st</sup> CREE VERSION OF A COHEN SONG**

Other special events are in the works to make *Leonard Cohen Night* an evening to remember including a groundbreaking performance of the first ever Cree rendition of a Cohen song. The translation is the result of a collaboration between singer **Jared Sowan** and Edmonton Cree Elder **Darlene ‘Pearl’ Auger**.

This wonderful initiative is a decisive step towards the presentation of the International Cohen Event to be hosted by Edmonton’s *Cohenights Arts Society* in 2008.

## VISUAL ARTS

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual *Leonard Cohen Night* is the culmination of a two-week celebration which begins with *Spice Box*, an exhibition of women's portraits inspired by Cohen's poetry. To be held at **Edmonton City Hall from September 7 to 20**, the show features works by Tessa Nunn, Glenys Switzer and Raymond Thériault. *Spice Box* is curated by Danielle LaBrie. **An official launch will be held on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> of September at City Hall at 7 pm.** It will feature a short but certainly lively performance by poet Jacques 'Jocko' Benoît, known to many as the sympathetic host of *Movies worth Watching* on Access TV and Canadian Learning Television.

## DISCUSSION PANEL ON THE 24<sup>th</sup>

It has also been confirmed by *Cohenights Arts Society*, Dr Kim Solez that on **September 24 at 2 pm**, a panel of poets, authors and performers will be discussing Leonard Cohen's continued influence and enduring connection with the City of Edmonton. Under the working title "*Forty years on: Leonard Cohen's historic visit to Edmonton*", the panel is to be held at the **U of A's Tory Lecture Theatre Complex** and will be chaired by Dr Adriana Davies, an editor, writer and performing poet. Panelists will include author and critic Doug Barbour, author Gordon Morash as well as playwright, essayist and performer *extraordinaire* Sheri-D Wilson. The public is cordially invited.

All tickets for the September 23<sup>rd</sup> *Leonard Cohen Night* are \$22 and available at *TIX on the Square* (780.420.1757 or toll free 877.888.1757 [tix@tixonthesquare.ca](mailto:tix@tixonthesquare.ca)).

La Cité francophone is situated at **8627, 91<sup>st</sup> Street**. There is ample –and free- parking.

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