

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release



Making Music a Family Affair at the Living Arts Centre

*August 2007, Mississauga, Ontario...*Four albums. Three Junos. One ferocious fiddle sound. Get ready for a stomping good time as the Living Arts Centre kicks off its 2007-2008 Season with Canadian musical family, **Leahy**! Featuring Celtic reels, pop vocals, and an unusual mix of jazz, folk, bluegrass, country, classical and even some heavy metal elements, **Leahy's** wide appeal is sure to captivate audiences with its uncompromising creativity. Arriving on **Saturday, September 29, 2007**, **Leahy** will perform in **Hammerson Hall** at **8 pm**, shortly following the festivities celebrating the Living Arts Centre's 10 Years of Living the Arts.

Growing up together on an ancestral farm in Lakefield, Ontario, the **Leahy** siblings nurtured their musical talents with a fiddle playing father and a champion step-dancing mother. As the band notes, "We grew up in a house filled with music. The first musical instruments that we were introduced to were the fiddle and the piano. Gradually other instruments found their way into the house and a band was born."

As teens, the siblings performed across Canada with their parents and quickly became favourites on the fair and festival circuit. A documentary profile, **Leahy: Music Most of All**, won a 1985 Academy Award for Best Foreign Student Film. Following an extended break from performing, the members of **Leahy** reunited, and a deal with Virgin Records saw their career soar in dramatic fashion.

Leahy's 1997 self-titled debut seized the public's attention, and extensive touring (much of it as opening act for Shania Twain) boosted **Leahy** to phenomenal sales of double platinum in Canada. It also sold impressively in the U.S. reaching No. 4 on the Billboard world music chart as well as in Great Britain and Europe, proving that the **Leahy** sound travels well. The group snared Juno Awards for Best Instrumental Group and Best New Group in 1997, and took home the Best Country Group or Duo trophy the following year. To date, **Leahy** has released three

studio albums, *Leahy*, *Lakefield*, and *In All Things*, as well as one live album recorded at the Casino du Lac Leamy in Gatineau, Quebec.

Leahy features Donnell, Angus, and Doug on fiddle, Erin on piano, Maria on guitar and mandolin, Siobheann on bass, Agnes on percussive step-dancing, and Frank on drums. Electrifying step-dancing remains an integral part of the Leahy live experience giving audiences the chance to feast their eyes and their ears.

Staying true to their family's musical roots and to each other, **Leahy** has been described as "zany and madcap" and the band claims it is true. "We love music and each other and we love to play. Everything else comes after."

Tickets for **Leahy** start at \$29. As part of the eyeGO programme, high school students may purchase tickets at the Box Office for \$5 each. Tickets are available: online at www.livingartscentre.ca; by phone at 905.306.6000 or 1.888.805.8888; or in person at the box office from 10 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday, and ninety minutes before and thirty minutes after the start of all performances.

The Living Arts Centre is located at 4141 Living Arts Drive, Mississauga, on the west side of Square One Shopping Centre. Complimentary underground parking at the Living Arts Centre is available. LIVE Cuisine Restaurant will be open for Pre-Theatre Dinner Buffet and Post-Show Dessert. Please call 905.306.6116 for dinner reservations.

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