

For Immediate Release: Monday, October 12, 2020 – Please include in your listings/announcements

CROSS COUNTY CRACK-UP The Comedy Country Series Finale – October 24th

Comedy Country caps an unusual season of laughs with another unique comedy experience. **CROSS COUNTY CRACK-UP** is a fresh take on live comedy during a pandemic taking physical distancing to a whole new level.

This Comedy Country wrap-up on **Saturday, October 24** will feature performances by an all-star lineup of past festival faves and new faces simulcast on big(ish) screens to live audiences at three County Museum sites.

Audiences can get together (with their bubble, in a physically distanced, responsible manner) and join in a County-wide laugh. Comedy Country has put together a live comedy experience you'll not soon forget.

The Comedy Part – A mixed media comedy simulcast combining sketch and musical comedy from award-winning comedians **FLO AND JOAN, SOUL DECISION, TITA COLLECTIVE** and **ANDERS YATES**, plus a 2020 retrospective w/ local comedy troupe **TASTE THAT** and their satirical news show **THE COUNTY ROUNDUP**. With comedy from Toronto, Vancouver, Prince Edward County and the UK, it's everything Comedy Country is known for – the best comedy talent anywhere alongside hilarious locals.

The Live Part – Your small group in camp chairs together with your community in physically distanced pods enjoying the hilarious simulcast projected outdoors at one of three County Museum sites: **Ameliasburgh Heritage Village, Wellington Heritage Museum** and **Macaulay Heritage Park** in Picton.

Mix in a little live, on-site reporting from each of the locations and you've got yourself a **CROSS COUNTY CRACK-UP**.

Cross County Crack-up ***a camp-chair comedy simulcast across The County***

When faced with producing live events in a pandemic the Comedy Country team relied on their improv training – saying “Yes, and..” exploring even the wildest ideas about what they COULD do.

“With Cross County Crack-up, our goal was to do something that could bring people together while being very much apart,” says Paul Snepsts, Comedy Country producer. “So, imagine a New Year’s Eve style simulcast where we can pop in and see our friends in other parts of The County, all watching the same comedy show that puts our local talent onto the same stage as award-winning comedians from across Canada and the world. THAT’s what we’re after.” The show will lean heavily on stable internet, streaming technology and technical staff to pull it all together, a challenge Snepsts is eager to take on. “Rural internet? Fortune favours the bold,” he says!

FLO & JOAN – Flo & Joan are the multi-award winning British musical comedy duo, and sisters, Nicola and Rosie Dempsey. The pair have headlined and played to sold out audiences across the world including at Just For Laughs Festival Montreal and the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, and their debut comedy special, 'Alive on Stage' is now streaming on Amazon Prime.

SOUL DECISION – Kevin Vidal (Come From Away) & Christian Smith (Second City Toronto) are a Canadian Comedy Award winning sketch comedy/improv duo who hail from Toronto but live far away from each other right now. They decided to join forces once again from across the Country for the Cross County Crack-up. Say that 5 times fast.

TITA COLLECTIVE – The Tita Collective is a Filipina sisterhood of multidisciplinary artists based in Toronto, Ontario. Individually we are Ann Paula Bautista, Alia Rasul, Belinda Corpuz, Ellie Posadas, Isabel Kanaan and Maricris Rivera.. We explore different mediums to tell the stories of the Filipin* diaspora.

ANDERS YATES – Anders Yates is an actor, writer, and comedian based in Toronto. He is a founding member of the comedy troupe Uncalled For, a frequent contributor to The Beaverton, and currently produces the live online comedy show The Oval for Bad Dog Comedy TV.

TASTE THAT! – Taste That is a local ensemble of artists trained in a variety of disciplines including filmmaking, theatre, music, fine art, design, clown and, of course improv and sketch comedy. They are practicing artists, farmers, homesteaders, and healers. Their comedy is inspired by small town living, the tension between tourists and locals, the idiosyncrasies of nature, and the traditions of rural life.

Comedy Country is a special project of The Toronto Sketch Comedy Festival, a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to promoting and supporting Canadian comedic talent. Paul and Julianne Snepsts founded The TOSketchfest in 2005, and in 2015 launched Comedy Country in Prince Edward County where they live with their two boys.

COMEDY COUNTRY the county's summer comedy series

Saturday, October 24th – CROSS COUNTY CRACK-UP

Featuring: FLO AND JOAN, SOUL DECISION, TITA COLLECTIVE, ANDERS YATES and TASTE THAT!
Ameliasburgh Heritage Village / Wellington Heritage Museum / Macaulay Heritage Park
5pm Doors / 6pm Simulcast

Tickets based on pod size: up to 2 \$40 / 3-4 – \$80 / 5-6 – \$100 (All tickets +HST and ticketing fees)

TICKETS AND INFO

www.comedycountry.ca

SOCIAL MEDIA

FB: @comedycountryfestival | Twitter: @comedy_country | Insta: @comedycountryfestival
#comedycountry

Series funders and partners:

The Government of Canada, The Government of Ontario, Tourism Industry Alliance of Ontario, Regional Tourism Organization 9, The County Cider Company, The Toronto Sketch Comedy Festival, Cabin Fever Kayak, Steam Whistle Brewing, 99.3 County FM, The County Museums, Lemonade Dave, Black River Cottages, and The Athol Rec Committee

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PHOTOGRAPHY:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/z4koxrxm74xwhw6/AACYnn316Yv5hGzJ83FrI9fxa?dl=0>