

News Release: Massillon Museum Hosts Patrick Sweany Concert

Patrick Sweany will perform at the Massillon Museum on **Friday, October 19**, in the first concert of this season's music series, "Rhythms." The local bluesman will entertain in the the Museum's main gallery. Known on the American festival circuit for his intricate, tasteful acoustic work, impassioned vocals, and highly inventive songwriting, Sweany is establishing himself as a major force in blues and roots music.

He performs a mixture of musical styles, drawing on the traditions of the Mississippi delta and Northeastern hill country; the wild jug band sounds of Memphis; early Piedmont and ragtime blues finger-picking; the driving boogie of the West Helena, Arkansas slide guitar tradition; the howl of the early Texas bluesmen; and a little West Coast Swing and New Orleans R&B. This unique style was culled from years of careful listening to his father's playing at home and in church, as well as his extensive record collection of blues and folk artists. Sweany found in such diverse artists as Charlie Patton, Fred MacDowell, Lightnin' Hopkins, Memphis Slim, Jimmy Witherspoon, Wes Montgomery, and Leadbelly, a universal element that spoke to him. This multifaceted artist performs with relentless enthusiasm, energy, and jaw-dropping showmanship.

The doors will open at 7:30 p.m.; Sweany will take the stage at 8:00 p.m.

The \$11 per-person pre-sale (\$10 for Massillon Museum members) may be purchased in advance (Visa or Mastercard) by phone. Cash and checks will also be accepted in person. Tickets will be sold at the door (\$12 non-members, \$11 Massillon Museum members) as long as seats remain available. The concert is open to the public.

Community members have stepped forward to make the Museum's music series possible: Affinity Medical Center, FirstMerit, Mel and Ann Herncane, Massillon Municipal Court, The Elum Family, A.A. Hammersmith Insurance Inc., Fidelity Tours, Fisher Foods, Massillon Eagles Aerie #190, Rhonda McMahan State Farm Insurance, and Shearer's Foods.

The Massillon Museum hosts out-of-the-mainstream musicians in the intimate setting of its main gallery to broaden the arts that it offers to the community. Remaining concerts in the 2007/2008 season are: Loudon Wainwright III (loudonwainwright.net), November 30; Susan Werner (susanwerner.com), January 19; The Biddies (thebiddies.net), February 28; and Richie Havens (richiehavens.com), March 27.

The Massillon Museum is located at 121 Lincoln Way East, in downtown Massillon. Free parking is available on adjacent streets and in nearby city lots.

For more information, call the Museum at 330-833-4061 or visit www.massillonmuseum.org. Learn more about Patrick Sweany at patrickswaney.com.

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