



MCDUGALL COTTAGE MUSICIAN-IN-RESIDENCE PIPER, ROBIN AGGUS



Robin Aggus of Kennilworth, Ontario, began playing bagpipes 25 years ago, inspired by the innovative work of celtic folk band, "Rare Air." *"It is the connection that traditional folk music has with traditional cultures,"* he explains. *"When I play it I feel strongly connected to the past."*

So Robin began attending workshops, gatherings and festivals in Ontario, Quebec and Vermont where he learned from a number of master pipers including Hamish and Fin Moore, Gordon Mooney, Matt Seattle, Pat O'Gorman, Keith Easdale and Barry Shears. Beginning with the Scottish highland pipes and penny whistle he gradually increased his cultural reach so that he now plays a variety of western European bagpipes and whistles in addition to Scottish Border pipes and smallpipes, including Anglo-French border pipes, English Great Pipes, the "new" Pastoral pipe, the Cornish double pipe and the Durer and Hummelchen bagpipes both of German origin.

He has also moved on from participating in marching pipe bands and now plays at festivals, weddings, community ceili dances and pub sessions, primarily in the celtic ensemble, WhirlyGig. He is a member of the Bagpipe Society, and regularly takes part in Mill Race Folk Society events.

Robin explains his passion for piping and his enjoyment of the cottage. *"I have travelled through England, Scotland and Ireland absorbing elements of the rich music traditions there and this has assisted greatly in my hosting of Scottish music evenings at the Cottage. On these occasions, I combine traditional bagpipe music from the Highlands and Borders with that of Cape Breton which makes for a truly entertaining and educational experience. I look forward to exploring and presenting more of that rich musical tradition at McDougall Cottage throughout my year in residence."*



This Seminal programme is generously funded in its inaugural year by the Friends of Joseph Schneider Haus. Please inquire how you can assist with its continuation in years to come.



MUSICIAN-IN-RESIDENCE CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2011 - 2012



MARCH 20 - SCOTTISH MUSIC NIGHT

The Cottage will be ringing with music from the auld sod. From 7:30 p.m.

APRIL 20 - HISTORY OF THE PIPES IN SCOTTISH CULTURE

Robin discusses the history of pipes and plays a selection of Scottish pipes from his collection.

JUNE 12 - PENNY WHISTLE WORKSHOP

Kids ages 10 to 15 years join Robin at the Cottage and learn how to play the Penny Whistle.
1 - 3 p.m. \$10 / child

OCTOBER 26 - MUSICAL INTRODUCTION TO PIPES FROM OTHER CULTURES

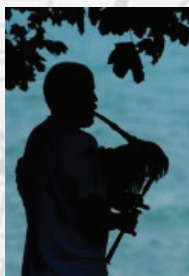
Robin will play a variety of pipes from his collection and perform a sampling of traditional pipe music from different cultures. 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER 23 - SCOTTISH MUSIC NIGHT

Robin and friends will set yer toes a tappin' with traditional Scottish music. From 7:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 15 - PLAID TIDINGS

Robin pipes in the festive haggis at the annual plaid tidings celebration at the Cottage. From 7 p.m.



MARCH 1 - FAIRTE CONCERT

Robin's musical friends join him for a special concert. Music for the Scottish Pastoral Pipe, researched by Robin during his residency, will be performed.

Time and location TBA

MCDUGALL COTTAGE

Open for afternoon visits

Wednesday to Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Thursday to 8 p.m.

Admission by donation unless otherwise noted

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