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Chantal Kreviazuk to headline 2017 Kirkland Lake Winter Carnival

The Kirkland Lake Festivals Committee has announced Juno Award-winning singer-songwriter Chantal Kreviazuk will perform during the 2017 Winter Carnival. The concert is Saturday, February 18th in the Northern College Auditorium.

The concert is part of the opening weekend of Kirkland Lake's 18-day Winter Carnival. This will be Kreviazuk's second live performance in Kirkland Lake, following her sold out show during the 2010 Winter Carnival.

Kreviazuk's latest album, *Hard Sail*, is her first new album in seven years and marks the Canadian singer-songwriter's return to the charts with the hit singles "Into Me" and "All I Got."

Since her last album, *Plain Jane*, was released in 2009, Kreviazuk has been hunkered with husband and Our Lady Peace frontman, Raine Maida, in Los Angeles to have three boys, Rowan, Lucca and Salvador.

During that time, she's collaborated with superstars like Drake, Pitbull, Christina Aguilera, Carrie Underwood, Kendrick Lamar and Pink. She's acted in films. She's dedicated herself to War Child and several other charities.

In addition, she started painting, appeared on *Saturday Night Live* and in 2014, was made, with Maida, a member of the Order of Canada.

In other words, when it came to penning *Hard Sail*, she had plenty of life to write about. "I didn't choose to make this album. I just had things to say and so they came out...there wasn't any pressure to record, which for an artist is a great place to be coming from, because it's real," she says.

"Over the past several years, I've kept up with the practice of song writing while staying home and being near my kids. It's a very humbling experience to be a parent.

You do the work, your little people know who they are, they have a foundation. They sort of dictated when it was going to be okay for me to be comfortable with making a record and promoting that. It's been a very organic process."

Called *Hard Sail* because "I have a wonderful marriage and family through hard work," she says, the album's first single, "Into Me," was written about accepting

love, but it wasn't until she heard the produced track that she knew she had to make an album.

“You get to a certain age and you just don’t care what others think. You’ve been through the washing machine so many times, you know who loves you and what matters. I feel so much more creative freedom in that. You just start stating the facts,” she says, “and the rest takes care of itself.”

The album’s second single, "All I Got," is a love letter, partly to Maida and partly to the idea of love. “Later, someone asked me ‘how can you say you love someone more than you love yourself?’ But if you’ve ever loved outside of yourself, if you’ve ever had a child, you know you can love someone more than yourself.”

More than that, the album is a moment in time: Kreviazuk has lived a lifetime in the past seven years and the collection of songs acknowledges that. “What is awesome about this is it’s an opportunity to take a picture of where I am,” she says.

The same could also be true of Kreviazuk’s entire catalogue, starting in 1998 when international audiences heard the Winnipeg native’s now-iconic rendition of “Leaving On a Jet Plane,” on the *Armageddon* soundtrack.

From that moment, there was no doubting her star power as a multi-platinum selling artist with 15 hits in Canada, including *Surrounded*, *Before You*, *Dear Life*, *In This Life*, *Julia*, *What If It All Means Something*, *All I Can Do*, *Invincible*, and *Wonderful*.

On *Hard Sail*, Kreviazuk is at her best as a songwriter and artist, arguably because of time. “If you get out of bed and put one foot forward, you’re changing. Every day, I’m someone new,” she says.

“That’s who I was, this is who I am. When Raine and I go out on stage together, we say ‘love, trust, protect’. That’s what this album is about. It’s a thank you to my husband and my family, it’s a letter to the universe that expresses my fears and frustration and my surrender to the reality of time.”

A long list of Canadian music royalty has performed during Kirkland Lake’s Winter Carnival including Colin James, Classified, Bruce Cockburn, The Trews, Kim Mitchell, Steven Page, Tom Cochrane, Nikki Yanofski, The Sheepdogs, Bobby Bazini and April Wine.

Tickets for Kreviazuk’s February 18th concert will go on sale next Thursday, December 1st. Tickets are \$50 and will be available at reception at the Community Complex and online through the Festivals Committee’s website. Additional Winter Carnival events will be announced in the coming days.