

THE CASKET

Songwriters' circle April 9

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Audiences and performers stand to benefit from an upcoming songwriters' circle at Bauer Theatre.

"The idea behind the show is not only to support local acts, but to also bring acts from other parts of the province into Antigonish that people might not have had a chance to see, and help musicians who may not have played in that area" performer and organizer Jenny MacDonald said.

"The best way that the music industry is run is through helping each other out instead of competing."

MacDonald, Betsy

MacDonald, Mike Aube and The Hupman Brothers will perform April 9 at the Bauer. MacDonald said audience members can expect the performers to add a little something to each others' songs

"You're going to get these songs in a way you've never heard before and probably won't hear again," she said.

MacDonald, originally from Antigonish and now based out of Halifax, is preparing for the recording of her second album. She said she sees a growing support for local music every time she returns home.

"The more that I go back and visit, it's definitely changed from when I first started writing songs and going out to play open mics," she said.

"A lot of that is because there are certain people who have come in and filled this gap between the musicians and the community."

Nashville North – a local organization focused on promoting music as an economic resource – is one of the main reasons for the increased support, MacDonald said.

"There's this link in the chain that wasn't there."

MacDonald has performed with each of songwriters before.

She called Betsy MacDonald – also from Antigonish – one of her favourite performers.

"Her solo stuff is barren and stripped-down, which is personal and really cool," she said.

Aube quit his job at Acadia University to pursue a music career, MacDonald said.

"He's got a really neat kind of folky storytelling style ... that's really unique," she said. "I've never heard anything like it."

The Hupman Brothers won a 2010 East Coast Music Award for best blues recording. MacDonald said she listens to their album every day.

"They also do some folk and rock," she said. "I've teamed up with them a lot recently."

Local gypsy jazz ensemble Mishra's Dream will perform before and after the show, MacDonald said.

Tickets are available at Five Cents to a Dollar, 101.5 The Hawk and Indigo Healing Connections.