

Canadian Recording Stars Honored

On July 19 Canada Post issued a set of stamps honoring four Canadian recording artists. In the latest addition to this ongoing series, the 2013 set features bands—The Tragically Hip, Rush, The Guess Who and Beau Dommage—instead of individual performers.

Five friends from Kingston, Ontario – Gordon Downie, Paul Langlois, Rob Baker, Gord Sinclair, and Johnny Fay – founded **The Tragically Hip** in 1984. The band's name, chosen quickly before the first gig, was inspired by Elephant Parts, a short video by former Monkee, Michael Nesmith.

The band has released 12 studio albums, two live albums, one extended play (EP) and 54 singles, and sold millions of records worldwide. Enjoying mass popularity and critical success, The Hip has received numerous awards, including 14 JUNO Awards, the Governor General's Performing Arts Award and induction into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame.

Rush has sold in excess of 40 million records worldwide, ranking third behind the Beatles and the Rolling Stones for most gold and platinum records sold by a rock band. Since releasing its debut album in 1974, the Toronto group, made up of Geddy Lee, Alex Lifeson and Neil Peart, has become one of Canada's most successful and influential rock bands.

Rush has won numerous JUNO Awards and international distinctions. Rush became the first Canadian band inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in April 2013. The band members were made Officers of the Order of Canada and won the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement.



The Guess Who got their start in Winnipeg in 1962 when singer and songwriter Chad Allen joined Jim Kale, Randy Bachman, Garry Peterson and Bob Ashley to form Chad Allen and the Reflections. In 1965, the band's single "Shakin' All Over" was released to radio stations in a plain white record jacket bearing only the words "Guess Who?". Intended to pique curiosity, the name immediately caught on.

Following Bob Ashley's departure, Burton Cummings joined the group. The Guess Who have recorded 14 top-40 hit singles, sold millions of albums, won two JUNO Awards and been inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame, Canada's Walk of Fame and the Canadian Music Industry Hall of Fame. The group continues to record and perform to sold-out audiences across the globe.

Mutual admiration for one another's work led Marie-Michèle Desrosiers, Réal Desrosiers, and later, Michel Hinton, Pierre Bertrand, Pierre Huet, Robert Léger and Michel Rivard to join forces as **Beau Dommage**. Named for a common or colloquial expression meaning "you bet," Beau Dommage made a strong name for itself with its self-described "folk-rock-urban" sound, rich harmonious vocals and lyrics rooted in the Québécois culture. The band's first album sold hundreds of thousands of copies. Although the group eventually disbanded, a strong friendship still binds its members, who reunited in 1984, 1992, 1995 and 2005.

Designed by Louis Gagnon, the stamps were issued in a booklet of 10 pressure-sensitive adhesive stamps. For more information go to <http://www.canadapost.ca/shop/>. For dealers in the stamps and postal history of Canada, go to

<http://www.stampnewsnow.com/dealerlinks.html> and <http://www.stampnewsnow.com/buyselldirectory.html>