

Short Bio

2023 ECMA Entertainer of the Year nominee and Showcasing artist **Robert Thomas** has been a published songwriter for 45 years. His writing credits include, Kenny Rogers Joe Cocker, Bonnie Raitt and the (Dixie) Chicks, among others. Now, after a career writing for major artists, Thomas is touring the original versions of his songs, and new compositions, with a stellar band of his favourite co-writers - **the sessionmen** - (*Ray Legere* – fiddle/mandolin, *Jon Arsenaull* – guitar/percussion/backing vocals, and *Maxime Forbes* – keyboards/backing vocals).

The sessionmen are a musical force in their own right, having supported Alison Krauss, Tony Rice, Doc Watson, Rita MacNeil, the Rankins, and the Chieftains.

In 2022, Robert Thomas and the sessionmen performed 25 shows to 25 standing ovations in Atlantic Canada, The United States, Germany and Austria. Robert Thomas is master songwriter and entertainer at the peak of his craft, backed by a smoking band.....“an act not to be missed.”

Full Bio:

2023 ECMA Entertainer of the Year nominee and Main Stage Showcase artist **Robert Thomas** has been a published songwriter for 45 years. His writing credits include, Kenny Rogers Joe Cocker, Bonnie Raitt and the (Dixie) Chicks, among others. After a wonderful career writing for major artists, Thomas is now touring the original, as written, versions of his songs with his stellar band of favourite co-writers - the sessionmen.

The sessionmen (Ray Legere – fiddle/mandolin, Jon Arsenaull – guitar/percussion and backing vocals, and Maxime Forbes – keyboards/backing vocals) are a musical force in their own right, having supported the likes of Alison Krauss, Tony Rice, Doc Watson, Rita MacNeil, the Rankins, Natalie MacMaster and the Chieftains.

While profoundly appreciative of the wonderful interpretations of his music by other artists around the world, Thomas is still very keen to share these memorable songs, brand new compositions, and stories of how and why they were written with Folk/Roots audiences everywhere. In 2022, Robert Thomas and the sessionmen performed 25 shows to 25 standing ovations in Atlantic Canada, The United States, Germany and Austria and they continue to wow audiences in 2023.

A master songwriter and entertainer at the peak of his craft, backed by a terrific band, **Robert Thomas and the sessionmen** are a very special act, “not to be missed.”

Reviews:

“An evening with Robert Thomas and the sessionmen blends compelling songwriting with impeccable acoustic musicianship and wonderful storytelling... not to be missed.”

- Lara Pallis, Subterranea, London, UK

“Impressive musicianship, so clean, so solid and full of life and energy. I love ‘em!”

- Barbara Cloyd – Host, The Bluebird Café, Nashville

“Highly recommended.”

- The Americana Music Association

“John Prine meets Harry Chapin meets Stan Rogers, wow. A special evening!

- Jorgen Gaute, Pur/Vinotek, Berchtesgaden, Germany

"If Stuart McLean could write songs and sing, this is what it would sound like..."

- Peter Gzowski, CBC Morningside

“The show was absolutely fantastic and the musicianship, stellar. To hear such great stories presented musically by their creator was a special treat. I knew the minute I saw the performer lineup it would be an amazing concert, but it turned out to be amazing++.”

- Harv Phinney, KDHX, Los Angeles