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## MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release: May 7 2019

***The Georgians are coming!***  
***Masters of polyphony, the Didgori Folk Ensemble,***  
***launches its first North American tour in Canada, Summer 2019.***

*"It will be a huge moment for Georgian music in Canada, an opportunity that happens perhaps once in a lifetime" - Andrew Timar, The Wholenote*

TORONTO – Georgia's preeminent masters of polyphony, the **Didgori Folk Ensemble**, make their North American premiere in Canada this May and June 2019, with a featured concert in Toronto on **June 7, 8 pm at Jeanne Lamon Hall, Trinity St Paul's Centre (427 Bloor St West)**.

Declared an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 2001, the millennial old Georgian polyphonic singing tradition (from the Caucasus region of Eurasia), is often described as haunting, visceral and transformative. It is like no other music in the world, though it melds together all sorts of appealing sonic qualities that makes it amenable to fit into festivals featuring a variety of styles – from classical and early music to middle eastern, to folk, world music and even improvised and contemporary new music.

The award winning **Didgori Folk Ensemble**, will perform from a wide variety of Georgian polyphonic folk songs and chants that reflect the diverse, ancient and complex landscapes of Georgia itself. Performing internationally since 2004. Didgori has toured Russia, Turkey, UK, France, Switzerland, Israel, Poland, Uzbekistan, the Czech Republic and Latvia. The name, Didgori (pronounced deed-go-ree), honours a historical battle in 1121 that helped reunite Georgia and ushered in a period of growth in arts and culture.

Didgori begins the first leg of its Canadian tour at the Edmonton International Choral Festival, from May 30 to June 2. The Winnipeg Singers presents Didgori on June 4 at Crescent Fort Rouge United Church. MusiCamp, Clay & Paper Theatre and Folk Camp Canada present Didgori in Toronto on June 7 at the Jeanne Lamon Hall, Trinity St Paul's Centre. And their final Ontario concert will take place in Kingston on June 10 as part of the Choir Festival Series at St George's Cathedral.

Didgori will also host singing workshops in the millennia-old folk tradition of polyphony.

Toronto dates include:

- Open Workshop - Saturday June 8 5-7 pm, St Vladimir Institute (620 Spadina Ave), \$25 at the door
- Intensive Workshop (small class size, experienced singers) - Sunday June 9 11-4pm, MusiCamp Studio (11 Cobourg Ave), \$100 contact MusiCamp to register

No registration is needed for the Open Workshop. To book the Intensive Workshop, email [MusiCampTO@gmail.com](mailto:MusiCampTO@gmail.com). Links for information about workshops or concerts being held in Edmonton, Winnipeg and parts of Quebec can be found at [www.MusiCampTO.com/didgori](http://www.MusiCampTO.com/didgori)

#### **LISTING INFORMATION**

MusiCamp, Clay & Paper Theatre and Folk Camp Canada present

Didgori Folk Ensemble in Toronto

Jeanne Lamon Hall, Trinity St Paul's Centre 427 Bloor St West

Friday June 7, 2019, 8:00 PM

Tickets: \$30 can be purchased in person (contact [MusiCampTO@gmail.com](mailto:MusiCampTO@gmail.com)) or at <https://didgori.brownpapertickets.com/>

Pronunciation: Deed – go—ree. The name, Didgori, honours a historical battle in 1121 that helped reunite Georgia and ushered in a period of growth in arts and culture.

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