

Horvat bringing music, message

BY JOANNE F. VILLENEUVE

Environmentally conscious musician and composer Frank Horvat is travelling across the country to share his music and his green philosophy.

On Sunday evening, he will be in Brandon to present his Green Keys concert, with music inspired by Earth Hour — the lights-out hour marked by millions of people around the world.

In a recent telephone conversation from his studio in Toronto, the artist explained that he is using public modes of transportation whenever he can to consume as little energy as possible on this tour.

"I'll be going from city to city mostly by bus, and on some parts of the tour, I'll be using the train," Horvat said. "I'm trying to minimize



Frank Horvat

plane travel as much as possible, but crisscrossing every province over the course of one year, doing 50-plus concerts, I'll have to take four or five plane trips."

At the end of his tour, Horvat will calculate the total

kilometres he travelled and purchase carbon credits to offset the carbon that was emitted during his travels.

Along with this green message, Horvat will introduce his eco-themed compositions, inspired by a range of musical influences — from Bach to jazz to minimalism to pop.

"As a composer, I do what feels natural to me. Growing up, I had very traditional classical training, but at the same time, I was very fortunate to be exposed to a lot of music, different styles of music, and play a lot of music — in high school bands and other bands in the community," he said.

"When it came time to think about shaping my own musical voice, I think all of these things gelled. You just

create what you know, and all of these things are what I know and love equally."

A busy music educator who also teaches an after-school program, Horvat is leaving behind about 35 private students to tour.

"A lot of my students are very understanding that performing and composing are another passion of mine," he said.

"I'm very lucky because they respect what I'm doing." Horvat's Green Keys concert will take place on Sunday at 7 p.m. at Knox United Church.

Admission is free. A portion of the proceeds from sales of his CD, "A Little Dark Music," will be forwarded to the World Wildlife Fund.

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Tony Curtis dead at 85

HENDERSON, Nev. — Tony Curtis shaped himself from a 1950s movie heart throb into a respected actor, showing a determined streak that served him well in such films as "Sweet Smell of Success," "The Defiant Ones" and "Some Like It Hot."

The Oscar-nominated actor died at age 85 Wednesday evening of cardiac arrest at his home near Las Vegas, Clark County Coroner Mike Murphy said Thursday.

Curtis began in acting with frivolous movies that exploited his handsome physique and appealing personality, but then steadily moved to more substantial roles, starting in 1957 in the harrowing show business tale "Sweet Smell of Success."

In 1958, "The Defiant Ones" brought him an Academy Award nomination as best actor for his portrayal of a white racist who escaped from prison



Tony Curtis

handcuffed to a black man, Sidney Poitier. The next year, he donned women's clothing and sparred with Marilyn Monroe in one of the most acclaimed film comedies ever, Billy Wilder's "Some Like It Hot."

His first wife was actress Janet Leigh; actress Jamie Lee Curtis is their daughter.

» The Associated Press

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