



Performing Arts Foundation, Inc.
401 Fourth Street
Wausau, WI 54403-5420
Ph: 715-842-0988
Fx: 715-842-8715
www.grandtheater.org

Press Release

Entertain
Educate
Enrich

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Acoustic Guitar Phenomenon Tommy Emmanuel to Headline the Grand Theater on May 12, 2016.

WAUSAU, WI – February 1, 2016 – Two-time GRAMMY Nominee Tommy Emmanuel, whose five decade career has garnered hundreds of thousands of fans worldwide, will be bringing his passionate and infectious live show to the Grand Theater on May 12th.

This one night only engagement is in support of Emmanuel's latest album - "It's Never Too Late" –released last Fall on Thirty Tigers. The album is 14 tracks of all original music with no vocals or guests. It's just pure Tommy – solo.

This legendary guitarist has a professional career that spans five decades and continues to intersect with some of the finest musicians throughout the world. A household name in his native Australia, Tommy has garnered hundreds of thousands of loyal fans worldwide. Tommy's unique style – he calls it simply "finger style" – is akin to playing guitar the way a pianist plays piano, using all ten fingers. Rather than using a whole band for melody, rhythm, bass, and drum parts, Tommy plays all that – and more – on one guitar. Guitar legend Chet Atkins was one of the first to inspire Emmanuel to try this "fingerpicker" style as a child. Decades later, Atkins himself became one of Emmanuel's biggest fans.

Emmanuel has had an amazing year fueled by a successful world tour, a new website, a new album, a new PBS TV special, and, most recently, he received the very prestigious CMA Global Country Artist of the Year Award. Tommy Emmanuel is also an honorary Kentucky Colonel, a CGP (Certified Guitar Player – a title given by Chet Atkins to only 5 guitarists in the world), an Order of Australia Medalist (AM) and the holder of both an honorary Master’s Degree (MA) and more recently an honorary Doctor of Arts (DR) from Charles Sturt University in Australia in recognition of his commitment to rural Australia and his contribution to music education.

Critics are saying about Tommy Emmanuel:

“Tommy Emmanuel's steel-string fretwork is technically dazzling and atmospheric.”

Chicago Tribune

“Having long been known as an incredible live showman this often unheralded legend clearly lays down a legitimate claim to perhaps the finest “finger-style” guitarist over the last forty years.”

Critical Jazz

###