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Voisine Rochs the McPherson Playhouse

Bilingual Canadian singer is on a break from stadium-sized concerts

Adrian Chamberlain
Times Colonist

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SHOWTIME

What: Roch Voisine

Where: McPherson Playhouse

When: Tuesday, 8 p.m.

Tickets: $45 (386-6121)

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Singer Roch Voisine will perform Tuesday night at the McPherson Playhouse.

CREDIT: CP File Photo

Canadian singer Roch Voisine

The Saint-Basile, N.B.-native recently returned to the English music scene with his single, By Myself, from his latest disc, Higher.

Voisine, based in Montreal, says this tour marks a break from stadium-sized extravaganzas, bringing him to smaller venues with a pared-down band.

In Victoria he will perform a selection of his greatest hits as well as selections from Higher. His music ranges from rock to blues to poignant ballads.

His debut 1989 French-language album, H?l?ne, has sold more than three million copies internationally. Its breakthrough single, also titled H?l?ne, was inspired by a friend's break-up with a girlfriend.

His first album in English, I'll Always be There (co-written with David Foster in 1994) sold more than one million, and won Voisine a Juno

award for best male vocalist.

In 1990, Voisine was the first Quebec artist to play a four-night run at the Z?nith in Paris. He was made an officer of the Order of Canada in 1997 for his contributions to music and the arts.

Joining him on this tour are guitarist Jeff Smallwood, guitarist Jason Lang, keyboardist Eric Webster and drummer Michael Roy.

Voisine originally pursued a hockey career with the Remparts in Quebec City, but had to abandon his plans after he injured his knee at age 18. He began writing songs at that time.

Voisine first became nationally known playing the role of Danny Ross in the CBC TV series, He Shoots, He Scores.

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