

MEDIA ALERT

**EAMON MCGRATH SHARES ACOUSTIC COVER OF “BOBCAYGEON”
STREAM EXCLUSIVELY ON [SOUNDCLOUD](#)**

**RESUMES CANADIAN TOUR TOMORROW
ANNOUNCES 22 MORE SHOWS THIS WINTER**

**[PRE-ORDER](#) NEW RECORD *BELLS OF HOPE*
OUT FEBRUARY 25, 2022 ON SAVED BY VINYL**



Download “Bobcaygeon” artwork [HERE](#) | Credit: Eric Willis

(Toronto, ON – December 14, 2021) - Prolific Canadian troubadour **Eamon McGrath** will release a new full-length album, *Bells of Hope*, on February 25, 2022 via **Saved By Vinyl**. Pre-order *Bells of Hope* [HERE](#), his most exploratory, reverential and optimistic LP to date. This year, McGrath performed over 70 shows across Canada. Tomorrow, he resumes his **national tour** with an additional **22 dates in Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia** up until his album release. In the spring, he will take *Bells of Hope* live across Europe. Full routing is available below.

In June 2021, McGrath hit the road after a long and silent pause. His band, consisting of bass player Tavo Diez de Bonilla and drummer Adam Balsam, played shows across Ontario in the summer and fall. The band made plans to visit Andy Magoffin's admired House of Miracles studio to record select songs from their dynamic live show to release in time for the upcoming touring, but Balsam's life was cut short on October 27, 2021. In honour and loving memory of their bandmate, McGrath and Diez de Bonilla covered "**Bobcaygeon**" by The Tragically Hip, a wild reinterpretation of which was a staple track from their live show. **Stream and share "Bobcaygeon" [HERE](#).**

The importance of "Bobcaygeon" for McGrath doesn't end there. "I was playing in Windsor at the beginning of the summer," he recalls. "I was doing a house concert and covering 'Bobcaygeon,' my favourite Tragically Hip song, during a thunderstorm. As lightning raged outside, the power blacked out right as I started, and the minute I finished, as if on cue, the power came back on. A few weeks later, I was playing in Edmonton, during another thunderstorm, and while I was playing 'Bobcaygeon' lightning struck the venue. I took those incidents as some pretty powerful omens. Coupled with Adam's heartbreaking passing, 'Bobcaygeon' has become a very significant song for me, and I hope through this music I make peace with its ghosts."

In these trying times, we could all use a little hope. Continuing on a path first forged by 2018's critically acclaimed *Tantramar* album and even more lauded follow-up *Guts* in 2019, Eamon McGrath unveils *Bells of Hope*, the third in a trilogy of releases defined by an ever-evolving and maturing sound by the road-hardened, working class Canadian musician.

Tantramar and *Guts* saw McGrath move away from the trademark bombastic and savage rock and roll of his early years into a new era of growth, celebrating and embracing new sounds, atmospheres and textures. Moving past the tarnished and primal **Neil Young-meets-Black Flag** approach of his early twenties, *Tantramar* and *Guts* saw McGrath channel inner darkneses, turning somber and harsh experiences into moments of beautiful noise.

On 2022's *Bells of Hope*, McGrath moves in an even prettier, ambient direction, incorporating sonic influences as diverse as **Talk Talk**, **Brian Eno**, and **Alice Coltrane** into his familiar palette of rock and country-laden Canadiana. While not only shedding the guitar-forward technique which characterized the McGrath of the late 2000s and 2010s, but also the doom and gloom of his last two albums, this new decade brings to light an artist who leaves no sound unexplored and no idea off-limits. **Download the *Bells of Hope* artwork [HERE](#) credited to Eric Willis.**



Download live performance photo [HERE](#) | Credit: Robert Georgeoff

Wrapping up the interrupted *Guts* tour, and also “frothing at the mouth like a rabid dog”— as McGrath describes—to return to the stage, summer and fall of 2021 saw McGrath play over 70 shows across Canada showcasing some of *Bells of Hope*'s new material, ahead of the curve of most artists who waited until well later in the year. “The second I was vaccinated and it was safe to do so,” McGrath recalls, “I started playing shows again immediately. I was alone out there on the road. The feeling of relief from being back at work and doing what I was put on this earth to do was indescribable.” Now back on tour for good, and with *Bells of Hope* being the first of over eight records recorded by McGrath over the course of 2020, it's no wonder why he is frequently described as the hardest-working musician in independent Canadian music.

McGrath also shines a light on some of his most treasured relationships built from a decade spent on the road. Some of Canada's most glowing talents collaborated with McGrath on *Bells of Hope*, including **Julie Doiron**, **Miesha Louie**, and **Joyful Joyful's Cormac Culkeen**. In this digital world, Eamon McGrath represents the most analog form of artistry. Within his 'never-ending' tour, McGrath has also created a record meant to be heard front to back in one setting: a classic album in a world of disposable singles.

Tour Dates:

December 15 - Hamilton, ON @ The Casbah
December 16 - Guelph, ON @ Fixed Gear Brewing
December 17 - Windsor, ON @ Meteor
December 18 - Toronto, ON @ The Dakota
January 20 - Montreal, QC @ Turbo Haus
January 23 - Quebec City, QC @ La Source de la Martinière
January 27 - Edmonton, AB @ Starlite Room
January 28 - Fernie, BC @ The Northern
January 29 - Rossland, BC @ Blizzardfest
January 30 - Revelstoke, BC @ Last Drop Pub
February 01 - Golden, BC @ The Rockwater
February 02 - Banff, AB @ Rose & Crown
February 04 - Lethbridge, AB @ The Owl
February 05 - Canmore, AB @ The Drake
February 24 - Hamilton, ON @ Mill's Hardware
February 25 - Kingston, ON @ The Mansion
February 26 - Bracebridge, ON @ Bracebridge Hall
March 02 - Calgary, AB @ Ship & Anchor
March 03 - Edmonton, AB @ The Buckingham
March 04 - Lethbridge, AB @ The Owl
March 05 - Canmore, AB @ ArtSpace
March 06 - Jasper, AB @ Whistle Stop

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