

MONTRÉAL • CALGARY

SQUIDJIGGER

SQUID-UH, SQUID WHAT?

SQUIDJIGGER is a Canadian Celtic/folk trio that has been a fixture of Montréal's Irish pub scene ever since a rough and rowdy 2004 St-Patrick's



gig. Since then, Squidjigger has played to packed venues in Alberta, Ontario, Eastern Canada and all over Québec. As a St-Patrick's week mainstay, Squidjigger was featured on *CBC News Montreal* in 2009.

The band's mix of lively tunes and silly antics have helped build up a healthy crew of fans who will show up at any gig, no matter where — as the Squids have discovered time and again at shows as far afield as Cornwall, Ontario

or Calgary, Alberta. These days, the band can most often be found upstairs at Hurley's Irish Pub, though the list of pubs they've played includes Montréal icons like Ye Olde Orchard, Irish Embassy Pub and Mc Kibbins Irish Pub. Two of the band's favourite outof-town gigging spots are Moncton's Old Triangle and the Atlantic Trap and Gill in Calgary, while the biggest venue the band has played was the Olympia arena in Deux Montagnes, Québec for the *Festival Celtique Sercan* in 2008.

A DISC!

After more than a half-decade of rocking pubs near and far, it was pretty much time for a CD. David,



Jesse and Peter sequestered themselves in a studio in Montréal to hammer out an album. 2010 saw the launch of *Seven-Year Itch* to warm accolades from the fans. Just like a live Squidgig would, the 11-song disc rocks and reels its way through trad-itional tunes, rock and pop covers and even an original ("Say Goodbye"), all given the Squids' special twist. Initially only sold at live shows, the CD and its tracks are now available as digital downloads from sources like iTunes and CD Baby.

PETER LIVES WHERE? AND OTHER FUN FACTS

- 1. Though Montréal is Squidjigger's home base, Peter actually lives in Calgary now. How easy is it to keep a band going when one member lives halfway across the country? Well, let's just say that it's a mark of each member's dedication that the band celebrated its 10th anniversary during the 2014 St Pat's run.
- 2. The band's name has caused all sorts of hilarity, but it's actually pretty simple: Squidjigger's name comes from the jig used to catch squid.
- 3. David and Jesse are in-laws: The guys worked together on Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* with the Montréal West Operatic Society years ago. Jesse and Peter were stage managing, while David sung in the chorus with Jes's sister. David wooed and married the sister and everyone left their Gilbert and Sullivan days behind.
- 4. Squidjigger has so far seen the destruction of, or damage to, one bass, one guitar, a mic, about nine mic stands (including two in one show), a bodhrán and at least one fiddle bow. The boys are philosophical about it all.

The band can be contacted at: bookings@squidjigger.ca facebook.com/squidjigger

