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## A.J. CROCE CONTINUES HIS "CROCE PLAYS CROCE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY TOUR" BY POPULAR DEMAND WITH NEW DATES ANNOUNCED FOR 2024

IN MEMORY OF HIS LEGENDARY FATHER JIM CROCE, MULTI-FACETED BILLBOARD CHARTING SINGER-SONGWRITER TO BRING AUDIENCES 48 ADDITIONAL SPECIAL PERFORMANCES ACROSS THE U.S. STARTING JANUARY 26, 2024 -- INCLUDING THE RYMAN AUDITORIUM IN NASHVILLE; COBB ENERGY PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE IN ATLANTA; AUDITORIUM THEATRE IN CHICAGO, IL; AND MORE...

BAND INCLUDES GARY MALLABER (VAN MORRISON, STEVE MILLER BAND), DAVID BARARD (DR. JOHN), JAMES PENNEBAKER (DELBERT MCCLINTON); FEATURES A MOVING MULTI-MEDIA EXPERIENCE



Los Angeles, Calif. (November 17, 2023) — With a successful fall run for "Croce Plays Croce 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour" in memory of his late, legendary father, hitmaker singersongwriter, Jim Croce ("Bad, Bad Leroy Brown," "Time In A Bottle," "Operator," "You Don't Mess Around With Jim"), A.J. Croce will continue his 2023 tour (which goes through December 14) into the new year with 48 additional dates announced starting January 26, 2024 in Anna Maria, Florida. The tour, coming to performing arts centers and historic venues nationwide including the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tennessee; Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre in Atlanta, Georgia; and Auditorium Theatre in Chicago, Illinois, will continue through November 2 in Tucson, Arizona. The tour also celebrates Jim Croce's legendary work coinciding with the BMG release of the 3 CD or 3 LP compilation project, "THE DEFINITIVE CROCE," which includes the iconic albums "LIFE AND TIMES," "I GOT A NAME" and "YOU DON'T MESS AROUND." Tickets for the "Croce Plays Croce 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour" are available now and can be purchased at <u>www.ajcrocemusic.com</u>.

On the "Croce Plays Croce 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour," the gifted multi-instrumentalist will be backed by legendary band members Gary Mallaber (Van Morrison/Steve Miller Band), bassist/ singer David Barard (Dr. John), and guitarist/violinist James Pennebaker (Delbert McClinton); and will be accompanied by background singers Jackie Wilson and Katrice Donaldson. The show will include a moving, multi-media experience in which A.J. will perform his own songs, in addition to tracks from Jim's mega-successful albums included in *THE DEFINITIVE CROCE*, which is being released this year for what would have been Jim's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday before his untimely passing. Says A.J., "We'll be playing songs representative from all three albums, and also some songs the audience might not know from more obscure artists that I realized connected me and my father. It was those songs that eventually led me to do this show in the first place."

Over the past three decades, A.J. Croce has established his reputation as a piano player and vocal stylist who pulls from a host of musical traditions and anti-heroes — part New Orleans, part juke joint, part soul. From his 10 studio albums, it's clear that he holds an abiding love for all types of musical genres: blues, soul, pop, jazz, and rock n' roll. A virtuosic piano player, A.J toured with B.B. King and Ray Charles before reaching the age of 21, and over his career, he has performed with a wide range of legendary musicians, from Willie Nelson to the Neville Brothers, to Béla Fleck and Ry Cooder. A.J. has also co-written songs with such formidable tunesmiths as Leon Russell, Dan Penn, Robert Earl Keen, and multi-Grammy winner Gary Nicholson. His albums have all charted on an impressive array of charts: Top 40, blues, Americana, jazz, college and Radio 1. The Nashville-based singer/songwriter has landed 22 singles on a variety of Top 20 charts. His songwriting and style has evolved from jazz & blues on his debut and sophomore albums, to the roots-rock of the more recent collaborative recordings like "Cantos" with Ben Harper, "Twelve Tales" with Allen Toussaint, and "Just Like Medicine" with Vince Gill.

"People often come in thinking the show will be a quiet, nostalgic, precious display of my father's songs – but it's not precious at all," A.J. says. "We give them an energetic, live show. The audience expects one thing, but by the time they leave, they realize they've experienced something completely different -- and they leave not only with a new perspective on Jim, but as fans of mine as well. That's something that has also made this whole experience really amazing."

Jim's music continues to be incorporated into pop culture even today with unique film and television placements in Quentin Tarantino's "Django Unchained," "Stranger Things," an Apple Siri commercial, "Fast and Furious;" and "Time in a Bottle," in "X-Men: Days of Future Past."

#### **<u>"CROCE PLAYS CROCE 50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR" 2024 DATES AS FOLLOWS:</u></u>**

- January 26 Anna Maria, FL The Center of Anna Maria Island
- January 27 Avon Park, FL Alan Jay Wildstein Center for the Performing Arts
- January 28 Immokalee, FL Seminole Casino
- January 30 Charlotte, NC Knight Theatre
- January 31 Durham, NC Fletcher Hall The Carolina Theatre

- February 1 Atlanta, GA Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre
- February 3 Greenville, SC Peace Concert Hall
- February 4 Charleston, SC Charleston Music Hall
- February 6 Knoxville, TN Tennessee Theatre
- February 8 Washington, D.C. Warner Theatre
- February 9 Englewood, NJ Bergen Performing Arts Center
- February 10 Troy, NY Troy Savings Bank Music Hall
- February 13 Fairfield, CT SHU Community Theater
- February 14 Buffalo, NY Kleinhans Music Hall
- February 15 Concord, NH Capitol Center For the Arts
- February 17 Providence, RI Veteran's Memorial Auditorium
- March 23 Memphis, TN Soundstage at Graceland
- March 24 New Orleans, LA Joy Theater
- March 26 Fort Smith, AR TempleLive
- March 28 Lexington, KY Lexington Opera House
- March 29 Nashville, TN Ryman Auditorium
- March 30 Carmel, IN The Palladium
- April 3 Holland, MI Holland Civic Center Place
- April 2 Elkhart, IN The Lerner Theatre
- April 5 Milwaukee, WI Pabst Theater
- April 6 Chicago, IL Auditorium Theatre
- April 9 Champaign, IL Virginia Theatre
- April 10 Eau Claire, WI Pablo Center
- April 12 Springfield, MO Gillioz Theatre
- April 13 Kansas City, MO Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- May 2 Peekskill, NY Paramount Hudson Valley Theater\*
- May 3 Wilmington, DC The Grand Opera House\*
- October 11 Cheyenne, WY Cheyenne Civic Center
- October 12 Denver, CO Paramount Theater
- October 13 Greeley, CO Union Colony Civic Center
- October 15 Salt Lake City, UT Eccles Theater
- October 16 Boise, ID Morrison Center
- October 18 Portland, OR Revolution Hall
- October 19 Eugene, OR McDonald Theatre
- October 20 Seattle, WA Moore Theatre
- October 22 Sacramento, CA Crest Theatre
- October 23 San Jose, CA San Jose Civic Center
- October 25 Rancho Mirage, CA Agua Caliente

October 26 - Los Angeles, CA -- Orpheum Theater

October 27 – Las Vegas, NV – Westgate Resort & Casino

October 29 - San Diego, CA - Humphrey's

November 1 – Mesa Arts Center – Mesa, AZ

November 2 – Fox Theatre – Tucson, AZ

\*"Croce Plays Croce" performances (A.J. solo, without band)

For more information check out: www.ajcrocemusic.com).

### ABOUT "THE DEFINITIVE CROCE":

BMG celebrates what would have been Jim Croce's 80th birthday and marks 50 years since his untimely passing with "The Definitive Croce," a collection of his unparalleled run of studio albums released in 1972 and 1973 — available as a limited 3LP (180-gram black vinyl) or 3CD set. Disc 1 is the 1972 studio album "You Don't Mess Around with Jim" which reached #1 and RIAA certified Gold®, featuring the #1 hit single "Time In A Bottle," plus the hits "You Don't Mess Around With Jim" and "Operator (That's Not The Way It Feels)." Disc 2 is the 1973 studio album "Life and Times," which reached the Top 10, RIAA certified Gold®, and features the RIAA certified Gold® #1 single "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown," plus the hit "One Less Set Of Footsteps." Disc 3 is the final Jim Croce studio album "I Got A Name," released in 1973, which reached #2, is RIAA certified Gold®, and features the Top 10 Hits "I'll Have To Say I Love You In A Song," and "I Got A Name" plus the Top 40 Hit "Workin' At The Car Wash Blues."

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