

# Jon and Roy - Their music can't help but make people dance

BY MIKE DEVLIN, TIMES COLONIST NOVEMBER 26, 2010



The band Jon and Roy. From left, Roy Vizer, Jon Middleton, and Ryan Tonelli.

**Photograph by:** Handout, timescolonist.com

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Members: Jon Middleton, Roy Vizer, and Ryan Tonelli

Genre: Folk pop

Formed: 2004

Full-length recordings: *Sittin' Back* (2005), *Another Noon* (2008), *Homes* (2010)

Website: [www.jonandroy.com](http://www.jonandroy.com)

Juror comment: "Their music can't help but make people dance."

Arguably the most popular act in Victoria — at least in terms of audience draw — the trio of singer-guitarist Jon Middleton, drummer Roy Vizer, and bassist Ryan Tonelli can lay claim to being one of the few local acts to sell out the McPherson Playhouse in advance of their own headlining show.

What's more, Jon and Roy have the rare distinction of being loved equally by fans, musicians and critics. All down the line, that's no easy feat.

On-deck for the group on Dec. 11 is the annual Jon and Roy Holiday Special event, which sold out its previous two editions at the Alix Golden Hall. The group will expand for the first time this year into Vancouver, with a show slated for Dec. 10 at the 1,250-seat Vogue Theatre.

"We really dig the idea of it," said Middleton, a native of Shawnigan Lake. "It's like a miniature festival."

Jon and Roy know a thing or two about festivals, having appeared this year for the first time at landmark folk festivals in Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver.

"We had some milestones this year," Middleton said humbly. "It was really positive."

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