



January 11, 2017 - For Immediate Release

## VANCOUVER ROCKERS PAY TRIBUTE TO ONE OF OUR BEST.

On January 27, Vancouver bands gather at the Rickshaw Theatre for **THE SUPER DUPER SHOW** – a tribute to local musician **Paul Leahy**, who was diagnosed with inoperable cancer late in 2016. The cancer has sadly left him unable to perform but more importantly has created an enormous hardship for the family. All funds raised from the show will go to the Leahy family.

A member of the Vancouver music scene for over 35 years, Leahy was known for such acts as **No Fun**, **The Toys**, **Transvestimentals**, **Pleasure Suit**, and most recently **Polly**. A guitar-virtuoso and master songsmith, Leahy's live-shows would light-up crowds and leave guitar-geeks mouths agape. **Nick Jones**, lead singer of the **Pointed Sticks** called Leahy *"the perfect blend of Mick Ronson and David Bowie."*

*"All Messed Up* [Leahy's final full-length album] *is a work of genius, and I wish that I had written every single song on it."* adds Jones. *"When I first saw Polly with [Pointed Sticks co-members] Ian Tiles, Tony Bardach, and Gord Nicholl, I wanted to kill him, I was so jealous – they were so good. I am going to miss him a lot."*

Art legend **Jim Cummins**, also known as **I, Braineater** remarked *"Paul is a very amazing artist. His choice of music, his ability to play and create music. I so enjoy his world and his ways."*

**THE SUPER DUPER SHOW** will feature **The Pointed Sticks**, **Polly Suit** (members of Polly and Pleasure Suit), **The Slip-ons**, **The Furniture**, **Swank**, **China Syndrome**, **The New Black**, **Tayt Modern**, and Leahy's son **Finn**.

Fans will want to get their hands on *"The Polly Package"* a limited box set that includes three CDs: a previously unreleased **Pleasure Suit** album, a signed copy of the **All Messed Up** album, and the **Make It A Smash** EP with bonus tracks spanning Paul's career. This limited box set is rounded out with postcards, photo cards and more!

Paul and his music touched many lives and inspired many people - he is our Super Duper Star! On January 27 we hear his songs played live once more.

## THE SUPER DUPER SHOW – A Tribute To Paul Leahy

**January 27, 2017 • Rickshaw Theatre**

254 East Hastings Street, Vancouver.

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Tickets available at Red Cat Records, Zulu Records, Highlife Records,  
Neptoon Records and online at Ticketfly.com.





# Paul Leahy is **Polly**

**Paul Leahy** is an unassuming person, thin to the point of skinny, with a gentle and quiet energy. And very shy. You'd be forgiven for not recognizing in him the dynamo behind **Polly**. On stage it's like he draws energy from the universe and blasts it through his voice and his guitar, changing from mild mannered man to superstar.

Of course, he'd be embarrassed to hear it told like that. He's very humble about his music.

Music is a simple thing for Paul, in that way that only makes things sound simple that are actually rich and complex. Music, for Paul, is about joy, about connection. His songs aren't about deep issues. Yet like any great storyteller, through them he is able to communicate something that is at once specific, but universal, evoking a moment. This is no "hey baby, baby" pop music, but something much more.

This album is an important one for Paul, beyond the importance of being his debut solo album. It came after a dark time when he saw the possibility of ever making such an album recede. The recording began as a kind of test to see if he could do it. He used a small studio nestled amongst the auto body shops down the street from his home in New Westminster.

Which leads to perhaps the most amazing piece in the story of this remarkable album. It's truly a solo affair. Paul performed every track of every song from drums to vocals to bass to piano to harmony to lead guitar and tambourine, as well as writing and arranging each song. The first song he recorded was *Roll 'Way the Stone*, kind of a pilot. After that he just kept going.

Where Paul truly comes alive is the live show. And Paul is not a newcomer to the live music scene. He's well known as a spectacular rock guitar player. [Although at home you're more likely to hear him playing classical. He's very fond of Mauro Giuliani.] As a young man he played with the *Toys* and *No Fun* as the guitar guy, and more recently upfront with the *Transvestimentals* and *Pleasure Suit*. This album is really the culmination of years refining his craft through the simple act of practicing it.

People often describe Paul's style as Mott the Hoople-like or reference groups like T. Rex when talking about him, which he finds both pleasing and embarrassing. He doesn't like to set himself up with people whom he idolized as a teenager. (But he did sand off the top of his Les Paul because Mick Ronson did.) However, another icon of the Vancouver music scene, Nicholas David Jones of the Pointed Sticks once told his wife that "*Polly live is the closest you'll get to seeing David Bowie in the early 70s.*"

And whether or not you agree with the comparisons once you've listened to the album, the biggest selling point to **Polly** is that he, it, the album and him live, are just solidly entertaining. You'll be listening to this disc for years.

