

The Weather

The forecast calls for gusty winds, extreme heat, and torrential downpours this year.

The Musical History Tour

To understand the world we live in now, we have to know how we got here.

"Listen to David Rovics"

- Pete Seeger

ONE THOUSAND YEARS IN SONG

2018-2019

PRICELESS

DAVID ROVICS IN CONCERT

See down at the bottom for details!

Rabble-rousing, award-winning, Portland, Oregon based folk punk singer/songwriter, David Rovics, is on a world tour, and if you're looking at this poster somewhere that's not a screen, he's probably playing somewhere near you very soon. We here at Historic Times interviewed him about the tour.

HT: It's basically a concert tour, right? So why confuse people by calling it a Musical History Tour?

DR: I write a lot of songs about certain particularly meaningful historical events because I think understanding them is necessary in order to make sense of the world around us. So then school systems in Germany and Sweden started using my songs as teaching aids in textbooks. The Zinn Education Project and the Peace and Justice Studies Association started using my songs for the same purpose online, as have many teachers and professors around the world. I decided to put a lot of time into creating a whole musical teaching aid on my website for people to learn about social movement history and recent events.

HT: So the Musical History Tour is a concert tour promoting a free online popular education resource, rather than a new album?

DR: Yeah, pretty much. But there's also an album, which will eventually be vinyl. It'll be called Historic Times, actually. For now, it's only available to CSA members and people who sign up to my email list at davidrovics.com.

HT: I have to ask, how do you survive if you're giving away all your music like this?

DR: A combination of people volunteering to organize gigs, other folks spreading the word about and coming to those gigs, and people joining my CSA on my website. Of course if people buy merch that's great, too, but as a significant factor in the livelihood of DIY musicians, merch sales is basically a thing of the past. It's a brave, new, "free" world...

HT: Before we conclude this interview, do you have anything to add?

DR: I hope to see folks at the show, on the road and in the streets!



DAVID ROVICS AND THE MUSICAL HISTORY TOUR IN CONCERT



FBI Raids Union Halls Across US

Seattle, Washington - November 7th, 1919 - The newly-endowed national police force known as the Federal Bureau of Investigation has launched raids throughout the United States against the Industrial Workers of the World. Accused of treason for opposing the Great War, the FBI has announced their intention to arrest the entire leadership of the IWW and to deport 20,000 of their membership back to Europe.

There are reports coming in from across the US that veterans from the American Legion are accompanying the FBI agents in their raids and leaving nothing but smoldering ruins in their wake.

Britain Wins Trade War Against China

Nanking, China - August, 1842 - The Chinese Emperor has admitted defeat in the Trade War launched by Great Britain almost three years ago. Hundreds of British soldiers and tens of thousands of Chinese have been killed in the conflict, which has been dubbed an Opium War, since it began with British retaliation against Chinese troops burning over 20,000 crates of British opium.

IRISH BATTALION FIGHTS AGAINST UNITED STATES

Monterrey, Mexico - September, 1846 - The US Army continues its advance into Mexican Territory. The City of Monterrey has now fallen to US forces, but there was stiff resistance from Artillery manned by a detachment of red-haired soldiers flying a green flag. Several initial attempts at taking the city center were rebuffed before the Mexican Army capitulated.

FDR SIGNS INTERNMENT ORDER

Washington, DC - February, 1942 - President Roosevelt has signed into law Executive Order 9066, stating that all Japanese nationals and other persons of Japanese descent shall immediately be detained and interned until sometime after the cessation of the current hostilities in the Pacific.

Critics of the order complain that it is a form of Collective Punishment against people, including Children, who can't possibly have anything to do with the Japanese Empire's attack on the US Navy in Hawaii. Others note that most of the most productive agricultural land in California is owned by Japanese farmers, and they wonder who is going to get all of their land once they are interned?

Syndicalists Seize Danish Stock Exchange

Copenhagen, Denmark - March, 1918 - Thousands of workers have marched from Folkets Hus, the main base for trade unionists in Copenhagen, to the Stock Exchange in the city center. Stockbrokers reportedly were not harmed, but there was no trading on the floor of the Danish Stock Exchange for an entire day, as it was Occupied.

Danish authorities have announced they will be pressing charges against the ringleaders of the protest action. For their part, the Syndicalists say it is unacceptable in a country as rich as Denmark that there are hungry children living on the streets. Maintaining its neutrality throughout the Great War, Denmark has seen a dramatic rise in its fortunes in recent years as a result of what some have called War Profiteering.

Farmers Blow Up Dam

Reykjavik, Iceland - August 26th, 1970 - At midnight last night, a dam on the Laxa River was destroyed, blown up by dynamite. This morning, over a hundred people phoned in to the police to take responsibility for the bombing.

Austrian Emperor Flees

Vienna, Austria - May, 1848 - In one more incredible development, the revolt in Vienna that began in March has seen the Defense Minister hanged by a mob, and the Emperor has fled the City.

The chain of events that began with the Crop Failures across Europe in 1846 and mass Starvation in Ireland have seen popular revolts in France, Prussia, and elsewhere. Estimates of the numbers killed in the course of recent events is now in the Tens of Thousands.

We can rest assured that the current wave of migration from these troubled lands to the New World will continue.

Refugee Ship Refused Entry

New York, New York - June, 1939 - The MS St Louis, with its cargo of almost a thousand German Jews, has been denied the right to dock in the United States. Having already been denied entry to Cuba and Canada, the St Louis is headed now towards Amsterdam.

President Roosevelt is resisting overtures from some quarters to lift the quota on those seeking asylum from what is frequently being referred to as the "Nazi Terror."

Most of the Congress also remains united against loosening immigration restrictions imposed against Eastern and Southern European immigration after the 1920 bombing of Wall Street. Authorities never caught the perpetrators, but they are believed to have been Italian Anarchists.

Crusaders Take Jerusalem

Jerusalem - July, 1099 - After an epic journey and a lot of military losses along the way, Christian Crusaders have this month breached the walls of the ancient City of Jerusalem. The Crusaders, who came from as far away as the northern reaches of Scandinavia and many other Christian lands, wasted no time in trying to figure out which one of the defeated residents of Jerusalem were Muslim, Christian or Jewish - people of all ages were killed without discretion.

Ottoman Sultan To Rescue Jews

Izmir, Ottoman Empire - March, 1492 - Ottoman Sultan Bayezid II has announced that he has ordered the deployment of the entire Ottoman Navy to sail to Spain in order to rescue the Spanish Jews. The Sultan's announcement comes in the wake of the Alhambra Decree earlier this month, when the



SULTAN BAYEZID II

Catholic rulers of the newly-united Spanish nation, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, declared that all Jews in Spain have been given three months to leave Spain, upon punishment of Death.

Ship captains in the Mediterranean region have reported that the Shipping Lanes are so full of Ottoman vessels that they have had to use alternate routes in order to avoid Collisions with the Muslims.

Cosponsors: The Zinn Education Project & The Peace and Justice Studies Association

More info: www.davidrovics.com/history/tour