

## FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

### WINNIPEG'S TODASCHUK SISTERS RELEASE FIRST ALBUM

A Winnipeg duet - Rosemarie and Charlene Todaschuk have recently released their very first album.

Entitled "TODASCHUK SISTERS", the album contains ten selections and marks a significant part in their musical career. Rosemarie and Charlene were born and raised in Winnipeg. They are now students in the Specialized Honours Programme at York University in Toronto. Rosemarie is majoring in Music and Charlene in Dance. They started singing at a very young age of four and five, studied voice and for the past number of years have performed extensively across North America in many festivals, concerts and public celebrations. Some recent performances include the Bicentennial Celebrations in Los Angeles; Canadian Heritage Festival in Vancouver; Winnipeg's Folklorama; 36th National Convention of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the United States of America in Hammond, Indiana; Pysanka Festival in Vegreville; Brandon's Vesnyanka Festival and Regina's Mosaic Festival. They have also performed for the Governor-General and Mrs. Edward Schreyer.

Rosemarie and Charlene - for their first recording - were indeed honoured to have as their musical back-up - VESELKA - a Montreal based Ukrainian contemporary vocal and instrumental folk ensemble. This ensemble (which has two record releases of its own) has demonstrated that it is the leading Ukrainian musical force on the North American continent today. Veselka consists of keyboardist Andrij Czerny, bassist Wasyl' Kinal, drummer Roman Kolanitch, and guitarist Ihor Zowtonizka. All have formal musical training, and are able to play a variety of instruments. The band has been together since 1975, and has played to standing ovations at countless Ukrainian music festivals since that time. "TODASCHUK SISTERS" have introduced a special guest to their production - Danylo Kuka, a native of Montreal who accompanies them on the trumpet and mandolin.

"TODASCHUK SISTERS" have already received rave reviews in the media. F. Michael Heitmann, Producer of the German Program on CKJS 810, Radio Winnipeg remarked, "I think this LP was long overdue. Being a "Non-Ukrainian" born in Germany, I could nevertheless appreciate the beautiful, and for me, typical Ukrainian harmony of a quality that only two sisters or two brothers can attain. Their voices blend so easy and so clean that it was my pleasure listening to the LP. The combination of the traditional melodies with the modern sound backing the Todaschuk Sisters is particularly pleasing, as is the mix of the songs on this album. From the so familiar polkas with all their joy of life to the melancholy, beautifully sung traditional songs, this album sounds great even to the "Non-Ukrainian".

The song "Mamo" was of particular interest to me as I know numerous versions of it and it is a favorite of many people. This is a refreshing new version of it, and even if I would not know it, I would be able to tell the love of a child to its mother by the very expressive way that it was performed. Rosemarie and Charlene Todaschuk have indeed made an invaluable contribution to our Multicultural Mosaic of Manitoba."

Jim Zack, Broadcaster on CKLQ 1570 Brandon commented, "I find the Todaschuk Sister's first album a real delight to listen to. The tight harmonies and clear voices will impress you, even if you don't understand the Ukrainian language. Add the excellent production and this album is a welcome addition to any library."

Mykhailo Bociurkiw, a Canadian Correspondent for the Ukrainian Weekly Newspaper (Jersey City, U.S.A.) and Producer of Nash Holos Ukrainian Program on CKCU - FM Ottawa adds, "The songs performed by the Todaschuk Sisters are sung with great sincerity. They have a feel for their music and there is warmth and intentness in their singing. Besides the wonderful blending characteristic of their voices, the sister's biggest asset is the creative and unique accompaniment of Montreal's Veselka orchestra. Veselka manages to provide them with a beautiful melodic thread which becomes more enjoyable with each play of the album. The Todaschuk Sister's stirring interpretation of Volodymyr Ivasiuk's "Vohni L'vova" gives new life to the memories of the late song writer. "Vohni L'vova" and other Ivasiuk compositions included in the album is a thoughtful commemoration of one - Volodymyr Ivasiuk - who had died so tragically. This album is definitely a positive and noble contribution to the Ukrainian recording industry in Canada."

The album is an important contribution to the expanding field of progressive Ukrainian music by the Winnipeg born duet, and will be officially unveiled at the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre (OSEREDOK), 184 Alexander Avenue East in Winnipeg on Sunday, 14 August 1983. The reception will be held from 2:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

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TODASCHUK SISTERS is available from your local Ukrainian Bookstore, or for Distribution, Sales, Booking and/or information, contact:

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