



Ed Sheeran Leads Off New Season of Austin City Limits

Superstar Returns in Dazzling Hour

Season 43 Premieres October 7 on PBS

Austin, TX—October 2, 2017—[Austin City Limits](#) (ACL) launches a new season of must-see performances with a dazzling hour featuring one of today's most popular artists, [Ed Sheeran](#). The worldwide superstar returns to the ACL stage in a stunning solo performance showcasing fan favorites and hit songs from his blockbuster album ÷ (*Divide*), the biggest-selling album of 2017. The hour-long season premiere airs **Saturday, October 7 at 9pm ET/8pm CT** launching ACL's new **Season 43**. The program airs weekly on PBS stations nationwide (check local listings for times) and full episodes are made available online for a limited time at pbs.org/austincitylimits immediately following the initial broadcast. Viewers can visit acltv.com for news regarding future tapings, episode schedules and select live stream updates. The show's official hashtag is [#acltv](#).

Next generation singer-songwriter Sheeran shines in a ten-song tour de force, opening with the soaring anthem "Castle on the Hill," one of the latest classics from his double-platinum *Divide*, Sheeran's third studio album. "I feel this is going to be quite fun tonight," enthuses the 26-year old British phenom who first-appeared on ACL in 2014. The one-man marvel performs solo with only his guitar and a loop pedal to layer his vocals, in a striking, intimate hour. Sheeran thrills with career highlights including his breakthrough hit "The A Team," "Thinking Out Loud," (which won him his first two Grammy Awards in 2016), and "Perfect," a stunner from *Divide* Sheeran calls "my favorite song I've ever written." The Austin audience is happy to follow his lead for the show-stopping set-closer "Shape of You," the record-breaking chart-topper which recently became Spotify's most-streamed song ever with over 1 billion plays. The musical dynamo is transcendent as he jumps from amp to amp, while working his loop pedal, drumming on his guitar and directing the willing crowd in a euphoric sing-along.

"There aren't enough superlatives to describe Ed Sheeran's many successes, but underlying everything is a genuine talent that makes him stand out," says ACL executive producer Terry Lickona. "What's remarkable is that at 26 his songs have connected with so many fans literally

all over the globe. This is the first time that his unique one-man show has been captured for a full hour on broadcast television."

Episode setlist:

CASTLE ON THE HILL
THE A TEAM
DON'T
HAPPIER
BLOODSTREAM
FEELING GOOD / I SEE FIRE
SUPERMARKET FLOWERS
PERFECT
THINKING OUT LOUD
SHAPE OF YOU

The upcoming Season 43 is filled with musical highlights, including first-ever appearances by trailblazing rock band **The Pretenders**, Southern country-rock act **Zac Brown Band** and acclaimed singer-songwriters **Angel Olsen** and **Benjamin Booker**, along with highly-anticipated return appearances from country superstar **Miranda Lambert** and Americana favorites **Norah Jones** and **The Head and the Heart**.

Season 43 Fall Broadcast Schedule (additional episodes to be announced):

October 7	Ed Sheeran
October 14	The Pretenders
October 21	Zac Brown Band
October 28	Norah Jones/ Angel Olsen
November 4	Miranda Lambert
November 11	The Head and the Heart/ Benjamin Booker
November 18	ACL Presents: Americana Music Festival 2017

The complete line-up for the full 14-week season, including eight new episodes to air beginning December 31, 2017, will be announced at a later date. Check the news section of acltv.com for additional episode updates.

For images and episode information, visit Austin City Limits press room at <http://acltv.com/press-room/>.

About Austin City Limits

Austin City Limits (ACL) offers viewers unparalleled access to featured acts in an intimate setting that provides a platform for artists to deliver inspired, memorable, full-length performances. The program is taped live before a concert audience from The Moody Theater in downtown Austin. ACL is the longest-running music series in television history and remains the

only TV series to ever be awarded the National Medal of Arts. Since its inception, the groundbreaking music series has become an institution that's helped secure Austin's reputation as the Live Music Capital of the World. The historic KLRU Studio 6A, home to 36 years of ACL concerts, has been designated an official Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Landmark. In 2011, ACL moved to the new venue ACL Live at The Moody Theater in downtown Austin. ACL received a rare institutional Peabody Award for excellence and outstanding achievement in 2012.

ACL is produced by KLRU-TV and funding is provided in part by Dell, the Austin Convention Center Department, Shiner Beers and HomeAway.com. Additional funding is provided by the Friends of Austin City Limits. Learn more about *Austin City Limits*, programming and history at acltv.com.

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