

## Riding Livestream Success, The Empty Pockets Head Back Out on the Road

The Chicago-based roots-rock outfit take fan engagement to a whole new level

CHICAGO (08/12/21) – Beloved Chicago-based Americana band The Empty Pockets have hit a new career milestone, having been included in **Pollstar's Top 100** Livestreamers Chart (#75 global Livestreamers 2020).

"I never thought I'd participate in over a hundred online concerts," says the band's guitarist Josh Solomon. "But that's the world we were living in."

Keyboardist (and Solomon's wife) Erika Brett adds "We're so grateful to the fans who followed us online to support our unexpected 'virtual phase.' I'm proud of the band for persevering in difficult circumstances, but we are ready to be back. Real people and live music!"

The band has announced **international tour dates** in 2021, including shows in Cape Cod, New York City, London, Edinburgh and Tel Aviv. And The Empty Pockets plan on bringing what they learned during the 'Livestream Days' on the road in the form of EPIC, The Empty Pockets Insiders Club.

Combining modern innovations like Zoom Video Conferencing and Shopify, the group has organically built a private, membership fan club that is welcomed backstage at shows both IRL ("in real life") and virtually.

"Thinking about yesterday's show and the amount of shows performed during the last 14 months," says EPIC Member Mike Sisto, "I just want to say thank you so much for the entertainment. Many of us went through some traumatic stuff during the past year and having these shows was such a pleasant distraction from life."

The Empty Pockets bring their live show to **West Yarmouth on Thursday, September 23rd at The Music Room at 8pm**. Tickets can be found at this link: <https://musicroomcapecodtickets.com/events/the-empty-pockets-09-23-2021> (For a full list of tour dates: <https://theemptypockets.com/tour>)

Since they burst on the scene in 2015 with their debut album, *The Ten Cent Tour*, The Empty Pockets have wowed audiences and critics with their distinctive blend of classic rock, folk and blues. The band's 2017 release, *Voices*, continued a **streak of Billboard-charting independent albums**: 2019's holiday-themed EP, *Snow Day*; a new studio set titled *Tanglewoods*; and the concert album, *Live in Seattle*.

Ever in demand as a headline act, The Empty Pockets have also served as openers for artists such as Bob Schneider, Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band, Dickey Betts (Allman Brothers) and Dave Mason (Traffic), among many others.

Raves AMD Entertainment, “When the Empty Pockets play, they don’t just go through the motions of belting out tunes and revving their guitars to impress you – their performances are offset with a **vibrancy and a sort of energetic showmanship** so that space and distance don’t matter in the end – rather it’s more of which of their carefully crafted songs will strike a chord within you first.”

At the start of the pandemic, the Empty Pockets launched their virtual VIP club called **EPIC** (Empty Pockets Insider Club) in which they meet fans live every other Friday – it’s part private concert/virtual songwriting, cocktail party and cooking experience. They’ve also raised money for worthy causes via public and ticketed livestreams, taking in over \$15,000 for the [Rustic Falls Nature Camp](#) and over \$10,000 for the [Greater Chicago Food Depository](#).

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