

MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Rising Canadian Blues Star Crystal Shawanda comes to the PCL Blues series from Arts Commons Presents

May 12, 2022 - CALGARY – Bringing the 2021-22 season of PCL Blues from Arts Commons Presents to an exhilarating close, the fiery Crystal Shawanda returns to Calgary on the heels of her 2021 JUNO Award win. Born and raised on Wikwemikong First Nation on Manitoulin Island and trained in Nashville, her North-meets-South musical sensibility has made her an undeniable force in Canadian blues. See Crystal Shawanda live in the intimate **Engineered Air Theatre** on **Friday, May 27 & Saturday, May 28, 2022**.

Crystal Shawanda's newest album, the JUNO Award-winning Church House Blues, digs deep into her love for the genre, demonstrating her incredible talent as a singer and songwriter – she co-wrote seven of its ten tracks. For a musician who was told by a well-respected music executive in Nashville that she wasn't marketable as an Indigenous musician, the recognition of a JUNO Award has proven that negative expectations cannot stifle her talent.



Crystal Shawanda

"I've been working really hard at always trying to represent in a good way. We need more representation in movies, on TV and radio," says Crystal Shawanda. "I'm very honoured and I hope I can inspire others to pursue their dreams and make some noise".

As a child, Crystal travelled to and from Nashville often with her father where she gained an early passion for the blues. You can hear that awe-inspired, well-travelled child in her music today: her smooth, sumptuous vocals have just enough grit to resonate with lyrics that reflect a wealth of experience for such a young talent. Join Arts Commons Presents and discover what one of Canada's newest JUNO Award-winning artists has to offer.

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What: PCL Blues - Crystal Shawanda
Where: Arts Commons (Engineered Air Theatre)
When: Friday, May 27 & Saturday, May 28, 2022
Who: Arts Commons Presents
Tickets: 403-294-9494 or visit artscommons.ca/Shawanda

The 2021-22 season of the PCL Blues series from Arts Commons Presents features an unmatched line-up of blues performers from both North and South of the border. Concluding its 24th season in the singular Engineered Air Theatre, the PCL Blues series from Arts Commons Presents is a cherished part of Calgary's long lasting love affair with the blues genre. Stay tuned next month for the announcement of our 2022-23 season of PCL Blues at artscommons.ca/blues.

To purchase tickets to Crystal Shawanda, or enquire about subscriptions to the 2022-23 season of PCL Blues, please call 403-294-9494 or visit artscommons.ca.

For media inquiries, high resolution images, or more information contact:
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Arts Commons Presents invites you to discover the transformative power of the Arts. As the programming arm of Arts Commons, the largest performing arts centre in Western Canada, Arts Commons Presents is one manifestation of this mandate, achieved through the programming and presenting of our in-house series: BD&P World Stage, National Geographic Live, PCL Blues, TD Amplify Cabarets, and TD Jazz, as well as the work that we do in the community. Through this work, we are able to do our part to further enrich our city, as well as create opportunities for Calgary-based artists on a multitude of levels.

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