

MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release

GRAMMY-Winning Judith Hill Opens Arts Commons Presents' 25th Anniversary PCL Blues Season

September 6, 2022 - CALGARY – She has performed on the biggest stages and with the biggest names in the world and now soul singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Judith Hill comes to Arts Commons. Sharing hits from her critically acclaimed album, *Baby, I'm Hollywood!*, **Judith Hill** will kick off a remarkable 25th anniversary season of the **PCL Blues** series from Arts Commons Presents on **Friday, September 30 & Saturday, October 1, 2022** in the **Martha Cohen Theatre**.

One of the sought-after back-up singers of her generation, Judith Hill was the protégé of Prince himself, and has performed with Michael Jackson, Ringo Star, and Elton John, and opened for John Legend and Josh Groban – just to name a few. At 25, she was selected as Michael Jackson's duet partner for his *This Is It* tour and she grabbed the attention of the world when she performed *Heal the World* at his memorial service. In 2013, she starred in the Academy Award-winning documentary, *20 Feet from Stardom*, winning a GRAMMY for her vocal performance in the film.

Her latest album, *Baby, I'm Hollywood!*, has been hailed by critics as “a compelling mix of piano balladry, vintage soul sweetness, and bold psychedelic funk/rock that packs a knockout punch” (Rock and Blues Muse) and “a riotous collection of funk and soul that already sounds classic” (Atwood magazine).



Judith Hill. Photo by Jeremy Jackson.

“Baby, I'm Hollywood!” personifies Hollywood as a woman,” Hill explains. “The music captures her free spirit, yet lyrically, it underlines the pain she has endured. It is very much a reflection of my life and how it has been growing up in



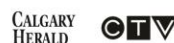
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the entertainment business. This record's relationship to pain is in the welcoming of it, the acknowledgment of it. It's the idea of no longer trying to fix it or hide it away."

Celebrating its 25th anniversary season, the PCL Blues series is testament to Calgary's love affair with the blues genre. The 2022-23 season of the PCL Blues series from Arts Commons Presents mixes the best of international blues with a [homegrown favourite – Nov 4 & 5](#), a [Memphis sweeping triple threat – Jan 20 & 21](#), an [unstoppable JUNO-winning Canadian – Mar 3 & 4](#), and a [viral breakout star – April 14 & 15](#). Judith Hill opens the 2022-23 PCL Blues series with a bang, bringing her star power to the Martha Cohen Theatre – the first time a live PCL Blues performance has been performed outside of Arts Commons' Engineered Air Theatre - for her highly anticipated appearance. See the full lineup at artscommons.ca/pclblues.

"Judith Hill is a phenomenal talent," says Jennifer Johnson, VP of programming at Arts Commons. "Having the privilege of showcasing such a top tier artist in the intimate Martha Cohen Theatre – it's thrilling. This is a concert you won't want to miss."

Arts Commons is home to six resident companies, including Arts Commons Presents, which brings speaker series, concerts, and other live experiences to Calgary to enrich the city's diverse cultural offerings. Amid shifting COVID-19 restrictions and cautious arts-goers, Arts Commons Presents shared the revitalizing energy of the arts with thousands of patrons through concerts, speaker series, and cabaret performances. To ensure that the arts were accessible to all members of our community, Arts Commons and Arts Commons Presents also distributed nearly eight thousand free tickets to individuals and families who were adversely affected by the pandemic. This season, we can't wait to share the power of the arts with you!

What: PCL Blues – Judith Hill

Where: Arts Commons (Engineered Air Theatre)

When: Friday, September 30 & Saturday, October 1, 2022

Who: Arts Commons Presents

Tickets: 403-294-9494 or visit artscommons.ca/hill

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

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 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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