

MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Arts Commons Presents Welcomes Icon Booker T. Jones for a Revue of Greatest Blues, Soul, and R&B Hits from Stax Records

This once-in-a-lifetime chance to see the jazz legend live in Calgary performing highlights from music recording history caps off Black History Month on February 25 with Arts Commons Presents

February 8, 2023 - CALGARY – Celebrated musician and front man of Booker T. & the M.G.'s Booker T. Jones brings his career –retrospective production, *Booker T: A Stax Revue*, to Calgary for an evening of genre-defining blues, soul, and R&B. Join **Arts Commons Presents** for [Booker T: A Stax Revue](#) and hear some of the greatest hits of the last century performed live as part of our **Jazz series** in the **Jack Singer Concert Hall** on **February 25, 2023**.

Inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1992 and a Lifetime Achievement GRAMMY Award winner, Booker T. Jones's career has been nothing short of extraordinary. The New York Times observes that "No living musician is more closely associated than Booker T. Jones with Memphis, the Mississippi River city that fostered a world-changing generation of blues, gospel and soul music five decades ago." And the BBC remarks that "Few have done so much for soul music as Booker T. Jones." A prolific songwriter, master of the Hammond B-3 organ, and celebrated producer, he was instrumental in shaping the Stax Records sound. Second only to Motown Records, Stax Records had an essential role in the creation of Southern soul and Memphis soul music. Throughout the 1960s, Booker T. and the M.G.'s were the house band for nearly every recording made by the studio including backing albums by Otis Redding, William Bell, Albert King, and the Mad Lads among many others.

Along with their support of so many big-name artists, Booker T. and the M.G.'s are acclaimed in their own right with hits like *Respect*, *Try a Little Tenderness*, and *Green Onions*, which will be performed as part of his appearance at the Jack Singer Concert Hall. In addition to the songs immediately associated with Booker T., the audience can expect to hear deep cuts like the brassy *Mr. Big Stuff* and sinisterly funky *Born Under a Bad Sign*.

Jones admits that choosing the setlist for his shows is a challenge. *"The more I live, the more music I become involved in, the more music I love and like, the more music I want to share with the audience," he says. "There's so much music in my past that I really love and really want to share."*

Booker T. Jones comes to Calgary with *Booker T: A Stax Revue*, a musical tour through the history of Stax Records that showcases Jones' greatest hits. Featuring a ten-piece big band with three lead vocalists, a three-piece horn section, and a rhythm section to provide a funky backbeat, Jones will present an energetic retrospective of the songs that made him a household name while regaling the audience with personal anecdotes that offer a glimpse behind the music. *Booker T: A Stax Revue* will transform Calgary into Memphis North as this legend of soul brings down the house in the Jack Singer Concert Hall.



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Arts Commons Presents' Jazz series has welcomed the best jazz performers from around the world and made history with performances like Canadian National Jazz Orchestra: *Premiere Performance*, in collaboration with JazzYYC, in its 2021-22 season. The 2022-23 season closes with a performance by a virtuoso pianist with the [Joey Alexander Trio](#) on April 28, 2023. Learn more at artscommons.ca/jazz.

What: Jazz – Booker T: *A Stax Revue*
When: Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Arts Commons
Who: Arts Commons Presents
Tickets: 403-294-9494 or visit artscommons.ca/bookert
Preshow: Justine Tyrell and Timothious

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 third largest performing arts centre in 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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