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For Immediate Release

It's a Party! Pink Martini Returns to Calgary for an Evening of Upbeat Jazz for All Generations with the TD Jazz series from Arts Commons Presents

April 28, 2022 - CALGARY – It's a multilingual, genre-defying cocktail of music with a distinctly international flavour – the incomparable Pink Martini. Led by creatively innovative musician Thomas Lauderdale, who is known for rethinking familiar tunes in an unconventional way, Pink Martini has been challenging expectations and energizing audiences for over 25 years with their bubbly blend of jazz, classical music, and pop. Join the TD Jazz series from Arts Commons Presents for an evening with **Pink Martini featuring China Forbes**, live and in person at the **Jack Singer Concert Hall on Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.**



China Forbes and Thomas Lauderdale with Pink Martini. Photo by Chris Hornbecker.

Pink Martini's debut album in 1997, *Sympathique*, became a worldwide phenomenon, garnering nominations for "Song of the Year" and "Best New Artist" in France's Victoires de la Musique Awards in 2000. The group has sold over 3 million albums worldwide through their own independent label Heinz Records (named playfully after Thomas Lauderdale's dog). Their music continues to discover new audiences, featured on the scores of television shows *Castle*, *Sherlock*, *Parks and Recreation*, and *Scream Queens* and the 20th anniversary release of their debut album has been a welcome return.

"It's hard to believe it has been 20 years since we released our first album," says China Forbes. "We have all grown and changed and learned so much being a part of this band. It's life, and Pink Martini has been a constant, a source of joy and comfort for so many people, which is a wonderful feeling that keeps us going!"

So, after 28 years, what's the key to Pink Martini's success? Fans of the band would say it's how they approach their artform with pure, unfiltered joy. Originally founded by Thomas Lauderdale as a way to share progressive messages of civil rights, environmental protection, and affordable housing in Portland, Oregon, Pink Martini has kept that spirit



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alive by bringing people of all walks of life together with uplifting and celebratory music. This has led to them establishing an international following of devoted fans who love their eccentric approach to jazz and classical music.

"Pink Martini is a rollicking around-the-world musical adventure...if the United Nations had a house band in 1962, hopefully we'd be that band," says Thomas Lauderdale.

Joining Pink Martini for their Calgary performance is China Forbes, a longtime collaborator who has written many of their beloved songs including *Sympathique*, *Lilly*, *Let's Never Stop Falling in Love* and *Clementine*. She officially joined the band in 1995 and has appeared with Pink Martini on *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, and *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*.

"Pink Martini are fabulous multi-dimensional artists who cross musical genres, languages and seamlessly weave pure entertainment throughout their live performances. We are thrilled to finally be welcoming them to the Jack Singer Concert Hall," says Jennifer Johnson, VP of programming of Arts Commons. "There's a reason that Pink Martini has been going strong for over 25 years. They're sophisticated and funny, and they bring something special to each of their performances."

Pink Martini was originally slated to perform in the Spring of 2020 but was postponed due to the pandemic shutdown. Now, they finally get to take Calgary audiences out for an evening of upbeat fun. This performance follows the trailblazing premiere performance of the Canadian National Jazz Orchestra in late April 2022 and the international tour of Jazz at Lincoln Center's *Songs We Love* that had us swaying to the groove in March 2022.

What: TD Jazz – Pink Martini featuring China Forbes
When: Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Arts Commons
Tickets: 403-294-9494 or visit artscommons.ca
Who: Arts Commons Presents
Preshow: Lorna MacLachlan

Arts Commons Presents' TD Jazz series has welcomed the best jazz performers from around the world and after last season's virtual presentations, we are excited to be returning to live, in-person performances of the incomparable Pink Martini featuring China Forbes on Thursday, May 19, 2022 and *SuperBlue*: Kurt Elling featuring Charlie Hunter on Thursday, June 23, 2022. And stayed tuned for the announcement of our 2022-23 season of Arts Commons Presents' TD Jazz series.

For more information, please visit artscommons.ca/tdjazz.

For media inquiries, high resolution images, or more information contact:
Alex Bonyun, Communications Manager
403-294-7429 abonyun@artscommons.ca

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



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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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