



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Latin American icon Natalia Lafourcade and Canadian author Louise Penny lead the Chan Centre's ambitious 28th season

The Grammy-winning singer will make her Vancouver debut, while Penny launches the new Made in Canada series

Vancouver, BC – The **Chan Centre for the Performing Arts** at the University of British Columbia is thrilled to announce the first two artists of its 2025-2026 season, including a new stream of programming showcasing Canadian talent. **Natalia Lafourcade**, the most decorated female Latin Grammy-winner of all time, brings her Cancionera Tour as part of *Chan Centre Presents* for her Vancouver debut on **Saturday, September 27 at 7:30 PM**. Best-selling author **Louise Penny** of the beloved Chief Inspector Gamache series will discuss her newest book, *The Black Wolf*, as part of the Chan Centre's new *Made in Canada* series on **Wednesday, October 29 at 7:30 PM**.

"Now is the time to expand our season offerings and highlight Canadian talent," says Chan Centre Director Pat Carrabré. "Louise Penny is a national treasure and Natalia Lafourcade is a Latin American icon. These two exceptional artists are just a glimpse of what we have in store for our audiences this coming season. With this announcement, and with what we have coming, we are cementing our place as one of the nation's leading presenters and producers of world-class art."

In *NPR*'s list of the 25 Most Influential Women Musicians of the 21st Century, **Natalia Lafourcade** is declared the "Guardian of Cultural Memory." Upholding her work as a "testament to the creativity and pride that unspools when one taps into tradition," she has spent over two decades reimagining Latin American music, blending Mexican folklore with elements of pop and jazz. With a catalog that spans from heartfelt boleros to innovative compositions with symphony orchestras, Lafourcade's music bridges generations while continuing to break new ground.

Lafourcade's career began in 2002 at just 18 years old with the release of her self-titled debut album. She has since released a series of acclaimed albums, including *Hasta la raíz* (2015), which established her as one of the most important Latin artists of her generation and earned her first Grammy Award.

A master collaborator, she has worked with icons across genres, including Jon Batiste, David Byrne, Gustavo Dudamel, and Los Ángeles Azules. She has also recorded with luminaries such as Omara Portuondo, Jorge Drexler, and Juan Gabriel, pushing the boundaries of Latin music. Her most recent album, *De todas las flores*, was recorded live to analog tape and won both a Grammy and a Latin Grammy, reaffirming her reputation as a visionary artist.

Lafourcade's impact extends beyond music. She established the Fundación Natalia Lafourcade, dedicated to supporting music education through Mexico's rich folklore traditions. She was also named the first-ever Ambassador of Music for Peace at the 19th World Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, recognizing her music's power to unite and inspire.

For this tour, Lafourcade will perform with just her voice and guitar. This is an extraordinary opportunity to witness her artistry in this intimate setting.

Author **Louise Penny** headlines the Chan Centre's newest series, ***Made in Canada***, which spotlights homegrown talent across disciplines. As one of the country's premier performing arts venues, the Chan Centre is proud to uplift the diverse voices of Canadian artists, especially in this climate of American antagonism.

Penny's appearance at the Chan Centre is part of her tour in support of her upcoming book, *The Black Wolf*. Citing the "ongoing threat of an unprovoked trade war against Canada by the US president," she will no longer be touring the US and has moved her book launch from Washington DC's Kennedy Center to Ottawa's National Arts Centre. Stating that "What is happening is not just a potential economic catastrophe for Canada and so many other nations, it is a moral wound," Penny is stalwart in "standing shoulder-to-shoulder with [her] fellow Canadians."

One of the world's most celebrated mystery writers, Penny is the author of the Chief Inspector Gamache series, which has sold over 18 million copies worldwide and been translated into 35 languages.

Set in the fictional village of Three Pines, her latest release, *The Grey Wolf*, was named one of the 10 Best Mystery Novels of 2024 by *The Washington Post*. The next novel in the series, *The Black Wolf*, will be released on October 28, just one day before her Vancouver appearance.

Called a "daring writer" by *The Globe and Mail*, Penny is renowned for her intricately woven plots and deep explorations of the human psyche. Her accolades include seven Agatha Awards, five Anthony Awards, two Arthur Ellis Awards, as well as the Order of Canada and l'Ordre national du Québec.

Beyond her literary success, Penny's work has been adapted for television, with *Three Pines*, starring Alfred Molina, debuting as a #1 series in Canada and the UK. Her Three Pines Foundation provides support for literacy programs and dementia care.

Join Louise Penny for an evening of conversation, storytelling, and a behind-the-scenes look at her acclaimed mystery series.

Event Listing

Chan Centre Presents

[Natalia Lafourcade – The Cancionera Tour](#)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27 at 7:30 PM

Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

Natalia Lafourcade, one of the most influential voices in Latin music, brings her Cancionera Tour to the Chan Centre. Making her Vancouver debut, she will perform with just her guitar and voice. Born in

Mexico City, she has spent over two decades reimagining Latin American music, invigorating its heritage with her modern touch.

Declared the “21st Century’s Guardian of Cultural Memory” by *NPR*, her work weaves Mexican folklore with pop and jazz, and is held up as a “testament to the creativity and pride that unspools when one taps into tradition.”

A master of innovation and collaboration, Natalia Lafourcade has worked with icons across genres including Jon Batiste, David Byrne, Gustavo Dudamel, and Los Ángeles Azules. Whether reinterpreting classics or debuting new works, she creates transcendent experiences.

With 18 Latin Grammys—the most ever awarded to a female artist—four Grammys, a *Rolling Stone* Legend Award, and the title of first-ever Ambassador of Music for Peace at the 19th World Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, Lafourcade’s impact is unparalleled.

Don’t miss your opportunity to witness this intimate performance.

Chan Centre Made in Canada

[An Evening with Louise Penny](#)

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 29 at 7:30 PM

Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

Join Louise Penny, the beloved Canadian author of the international bestselling Chief Inspector Gamache series, for an evening of conversation in celebration of her latest novel, *The Black Wolf*. One of the most celebrated crime writers of our time, Penny’s novels have sold over 18 million copies worldwide and been translated into 35 languages. Her work has topped bestseller lists across North America and beyond, earning her seven Agatha Awards, multiple Anthony Awards, and some of the highest literary honors in crime fiction. She is also a recipient of both the Order of Canada and l’Ordre national du Québec.

“A daring author” (*The Globe and Mail*), Penny’s books follow Chief Inspector Armand Gamache as he digs into the mysteries of the fictional Quebecois village, Three Pines. This quiet, close-knit community seems untouched by the outside world, yet is no stranger to secrets and crime. Her latest release, *The Black Wolf*, is the 20th installment in the series.

This 60-minute moderated discussion, followed by an audience Q&A, offers a rare opportunity to hear Penny discuss her inspirations, her writing process, and what’s next for Gamache. Don’t miss this exclusive evening with one of Canada’s most decorated and beloved authors, whose books have been called “a stunning and exhilarating” blend of mystery and heart (*Wall Street Journal*).

Ticketing

Natalia Lafourcade – The Cancionera Tour

- Season Subscriber tickets go on sale April 3 at 12 PM
- General Public tickets go on sale April 4 at 10 AM

An Evening with Louise Penny

- Season Subscriber tickets go on sale April 10 at 10 AM
- General Public tickets go on sale April 11 at 10 AM

Ticket Office:

chan.tickets@ubc.ca or 604.822.2697

Website:

chancentre.com

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