



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 27, 2019

Chan Centre Presents Boundary-Pushing Sámi Vocalist Mari Boine

Powerful Indigenous singer-songwriter brings her mesmerizing sound and proud heritage from Sámiland to Musqueam Traditional Territory

Vancouver, BC — The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at the University of British Columbia presents the unique vocals of **Mari Boine** on October 5, 2019 at 8pm in the Chan Shun Concert Hall. A cherished musician who truly embodies and evokes the stories of her homeland, Boine will perform her distinct, enigmatic blend of yoik chants, Norwegian folksong, and experimental music from a trailblazing career that spans more than three decades and represents a thousand years of ancestral connection to an unyielding frozen space.

Born in Karasjok in the arctic Finnmark region of Northern Norway's Sámiland, Boine embodies both an intimate sense of belonging to the untouched land that she was raised on, and an understanding of the strict oppression and discrimination Norwegian society and Laestadian Lutheranism imposed on Sámiland and its people. With this tumultuous socio-political context weighing heavy, Boine took to music in order to create a platform to share both the joy of her heritage and the pain of racism, and has become one of the most strident and important ambassadors of Sámi culture. Her early musical influences included traditional yoik chanting passed down from ancestors, mainstream rock and jazz music from all over the world discovered on her home radio, and the sounds of nature with which she felt a close bond—the wind, water, and bird song. Mari Boine's voice, "Tremulous, ethereal and powerfully intimate," as described by *The Telegraph*, "swoops and wheels over a sonic landscape, carrying images of ice floes and reindeer trails, of snowbirds flying over the Arctic tundra."

Boine's 1989 breakout solo album, *Gula Gula*, was released on Peter Gabriel's famed Real World label and garnered significant international attention, as well as the first of three Spellemannprisen awards (often referred to as a Norwegian Grammy) for the artist. Three albums in the 1990s earned her a trio of German Jazz Awards: *Goaskinvjellja/Eagle Brother* (1993), *Leahkastin/Unfolding* (1994), and *Eallin/Live* (1996). The new millennium saw Boine reaching out to audiences with a couple of highly original remix albums, *Mari Boine Remixed* (2001) and *It Ain't Necessarily Evil* (2008). She co-wrote music for German film director Anne Wild's adaptation of the fairy tale *Hansel and Gretel* (2005) and Nils Gaup's *The Kautokeino Rebellion* (2008), about the religious and cultural reawakening that in 1852 inspired a Sámi revolt in a small Norwegian village. In 2009, she broke new ground yet again on *Čuovgga Áirras/Sterna Paradisea*, collaborating with South African musicians and adopting a lighter, more pop-like approach.

"Mari Boine is a force," says **Joyce Hinton**, Co-Managing Director of the Chan Centre. "Her immense body of work—which in many ways cannot be categorized—is an extraordinary feat which highlights both tradition and innovation, and her spellbinding songs have a way of staying with you long after you've heard them. Her commitment to her roots and tireless advocacy for the Sámi are a true inspiration and example in activism for us all. We are so fortunate to be able to share Mari's incredible talent and perspective with audiences here at the University of British Columbia, and look forward to some extra special collaborations with Vancouver's Indigenous community."

/more...

Mari Boine introduced new music in 2017 with *See The Woman*, a landmark album recorded entirely in English for the first time. It marked an era of renewed artistry for Boine, but one that continues to defy simple definition. “It’s completely irrelevant what you call her music,” said German music journalist Jörg Eipasch, “She could have sung her songs a thousand years ago or sing them a thousand years from now and still retain the same depth and resonance... it is like Mari Boine’s voice reveals just the smallest sliver of eternity.” As the artist herself notes about her latest material, “These sounds create a space for me to tell more complex stories.” In 2018, Boine was the recipient of a Norwegian Spellemannprisen award for lifetime achievement and became a member of the The Royal Swedish Academy of Music.

Chan Centre Connects Events (chancentre.com/connects)

Programmed in conjunction with Chan Centre performances, exploring the role of arts and artists in society.

- **Film Screening: Sámi Blood — Thursday September 19, 7pm at The Cinematheque (1131 Howe St).** Following the story of a 14-year-old Sámi girl coming of age in the 1930s Nordic wilderness, this award-winning film provides a visceral look into Swedish colonial history and its devastating effect on Indigenous communities.
- **Pre-show Talk with Sheryl Lightfoot – Saturday October 5, 7:15pm in the Royal Bank Cinema at the Chan Centre.** UBC’s Sheryl Lightfoot, who is Anishinaabe from the Lake Superior Band of Ojibwe, discusses the connections between Sámi and local Indigenous communities in respect to language revival and political resilience.

About the Chan Centre for Performing Arts at UBC (chancentre.com)

Since 1997, the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts has earned an international reputation for its striking design, stellar acoustics, and exceptional programming. Artists, critics, and patrons alike are unanimous in their praise of the facility, winning it a place among North America’s top-rated performing arts spaces. Featuring three unique venues—the Chan Shun Concert Hall, The Telus Studio Theatre, and the Royal Bank Cinema—the Chan Centre is a vital part of UBC campus and community life where artistic and academic disciplines merge to inspire new perspectives on the world around us. Past performers and speakers include Wynton Marsalis, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Renée Fleming, Dan Savage, Yo-Yo Ma, Jane Goodall, Herbie Hancock, Lila Downs, and Anoushka Shankar.

LISTING INFORMATION

Chan Centre Presents Mari Boine

Date:	Saturday October 5, 2019 at 8pm
Ticket Prices:	From \$38
Address:	Chan Centre for the Performing Arts University of British Columbia 6265 Crescent Road Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1
Box Office:	604-822-2697 / chancentre.com Open Tue–Sat, 12pm–5pm
Website:	chancentre.com

-30-

For further media information:

CLAIRE MOHUN | 604-822-1241
claire.mohun@ubc.ca
Chan Centre for the Performing Arts