



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 4, 2020

## **Jazz Legend Dianne Reeves Brings Electrifying New Brazilian Project to Vancouver on International Women’s Day**

***Award-winning vocalist Reeves’ love for the music of Brazil fully discovered in rich concert-length celebration, Beleza Brazil, also featuring a masterful roster of instrumentalists.***

**Vancouver, BC — The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts** at the University of British Columbia welcomes American jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves along with a hugely talented band for a performance showcasing both her inimitable voice and vast repertoire. The newly developed program will highlight pieces Reeves has honed over countless recordings and live performances, and features well-known Brazilian players—guitarist **Romero Lubambo**, drummer **Rafael Barata**, and bassist **Itaiguara Brandão**—along with pianist **John Beasley**. **Dianne Reeves: *Beleza Brazil*** takes place in the Chan Shun Concert Hall on Sunday March 8, 2020 at 7pm.

“Dianne Reeves is one of my favourite jazz vocalists today, and it’s always a special experience to see and hear her perform live,” says Joyce Hinton, Co-Managing Director of the Chan Centre. “I’m particularly excited to share her latest project, *Beleza Brazil*, with our audience because it’s full of repertoire that she has developed and grown very fond of over her decades-long career. The music of Brazil is known for its unique arrangements, infectious rhythms, and deep emotion, and coupled with Reeves’ outstanding vocal skill, this promises to be a truly memorable musical journey and a wonderful way to celebrate International Women’s Day.”

Brazilian music has been a consistent presence and passion for Reeves, and its influence can be seen in just about every one of her recordings as well as in her longtime collaborations with leading Brazilian jazz musicians. In advance of a forthcoming Brazilian-inspired album, this will be Reeves’ first full-length program dedicated entirely to the vibrant sounds of the South American country, where familiar genres such as bossa nova, choro, and forró originated. “There’s so much of Africa in their music and rhythms that I’ve always been attracted to their sound,” said Reeves in a 2019 interview with *The Philadelphia Tribune*. Loosely translated as “the beauty of Brazil” in Portuguese, *Beleza Brazil* will touch on compositions by Dori Caymmi, Vinícius de Moraes, Antônio Carlos Jobim, and other legendary musicians and songwriters from the region.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, and raised in Denver, Colorado, Dianne Reeves hails from a wholly musical family. Reeves’ father was a vocalist, her mother played the trumpet, her uncle is famed bassist Charles Burrell, and her late cousin George Duke was a pioneer in both jazz and popular genres—well known for his album *Brazilian Love Affair* recorded in 1979 in Rio de Janeiro. As a child, Reeves’ mother encouraged her love for music, setting her on the path to study with jazz mentors such as Clark Terry and Phil Moore. Reeves’ first studio album *Welcome to My Love* was released in 1982, launching an illustrious musical career that now spans almost four decades.

Known for working with fellow musical greats, Reeves has toured with Harry Belafonte, Eduardo del Barrio, and Sergio Mendes, which cemented her longstanding kinship with Latin American music. She has recorded and performed with several symphony orchestras, including with Wynton Marsalis and the

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Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, and served as the first creative chair for jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Reeves has received five Grammy Awards for Best Jazz Vocal Album, an honorary doctorate of music from Juilliard, and was recently named a 2018 National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master, the highest honour the United States bestows on jazz artists. Her timeless voice and powerful performances have made her an extraordinary world-class talent. Says Wynton Marsalis, “She has one of the most powerful, purposeful, and accurate voices of this or any time,” and *The New York Times* calls her “the most admired jazz diva since the heyday of Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, and Billie Holiday.”

**Chan Centre Connects Events ([chancentre.com/connects](http://chancentre.com/connects))**

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

- **Pre-show Talk with Steve Maddock – Sunday March 8, 6:15pm in the Royal Bank Cinema at the Chan Centre.** Vocalist, educator, and member of Vancouver’s musica intima Steve Maddock examines the historical progression of Brazilian music, from chorinho (aka choro), to samba, and eventually bossa nova, which became a worldwide sensation in the mid-1950s.

**About the Chan Centre for Performing Arts at UBC ([chancentre.com](http://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**

Date:	<b>Chan Centre Presents: Dianne Reeves: <i>Beleza Brazil</i></b> Sunday March 8, 2020 at 7pm
Ticket Prices:	From \$46
Address:	Chan Centre for the Performing Arts University of British Columbia 6265 Crescent Road Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1
Box Office:	604-822-2697 / <a href="http://chancentre.com">chancentre.com</a> Open Tue–Sat, 12pm–5pm
Website:	<a href="http://chancentre.com">chancentre.com</a>
Link to Artist Photos:	<a href="http://chancentre.com/press-downloads/">chancentre.com/press-downloads/</a>

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**For further media information:**  
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Chan Centre for the Performing Arts