



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Chan Centre Celebrates 25th Anniversary Season with Bold, Global Icons
Including Buffy Sainte-Marie, Makaya McCraven, Oumou Sangaré, and more

Vancouver, BC — **The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts** at the University of British Columbia is proud to announce a slate of eight innovative and exceptional artists from around the world as part of its highly anticipated 25th anniversary season. The 2022/23 season is an ambitious return to form for Chan Presents with highlights including living legend, Oscar-winning Cree singer and activist **Buffy Sainte-Marie** who kicks off the season on September 18. **Makaya McCraven**, a creative visionary and "beat scientist" shaping the future of jazz presents the Vancouver premiere of his forthcoming soon-to-be announced album on October 15, while Grammy-winning 'Songbird of Wassoulou' **Oumou Sangaré**, one of Africa's most venerated international stars, performs on October 23. The joyful, exuberant and political music of Afropop superstar **Fatoumata Diawara** will take over the Chan on April 14.

"Our Chan Presents series celebrates some of the most dynamic artists of our time," says Jarrett Martineau, curator-in-residence of the Chan Centre Presents. "It lifts up the voices of women, Black and Indigenous artists, and space-shifting storytellers that reimagine where music can go, what it can do, and who it can reach. I'm proud that we'll be interweaving luminous voices from the past, present and future. These iconic voices draw on ancient traditions and reimagine them into new futures, representing the music of a world to come."

Martineau, the award-winning, Indigenous multimedia storyteller, and host and producer of CBC Music's *Reclaimed*, is charged with programming the bulk of the season. Two guest curators also lend their expertise. The renowned conductor, composer, and pianist Dinuk Wijeratne oversees two concerts: the lauded tabla player **Sandeep Das** on February 18, and **The Journeyed Compass** featuring the curator himself performing with friends including the Syrian clarinetist **Kinan Azmeh** on May 5. The acclaimed pianist David Fung, newly appointed as Associate Professor of Piano at the UBC School of Music, leads the programming for the Chan Centre's newly acquired Steinway Spirio piano and selected the enthralling piano duo **Anderson & Roe** to perform on March 4.

Buffy Sainte-Marie's concert will be presented as part of a larger two-day festival in September, presented ahead of this year's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The festival will celebrate Indigenous culture and community and will feature performances by artists from the ᓄᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ (Musqueam), ᓄᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ (Squamish) and ᓄᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations, as well as Indigenous musicians and dance groups from across Turtle Island. Details and lineup for this collaborative and joyous, Indigenous-centred festival will be announced in the coming weeks.

Martineau is also programming an innovative new series for the anniversary season that will mark a departure from the main Chan Presents programming. An announcement for this slate of programming is coming soon.

Chan Centre Presents Event Listings

Buffy Sainte-Marie | SUN SEP 18 at 8PM

Legendary Cree musician and activist Buffy Sainte-Marie is one of the most prolific singer-songwriters of the past century. An Oscar-winning composer, musician, visual artist, activist, and educator, she has spent her life

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creating, innovating, and disrupting. Her message is as strident and empowering on her 19th album, *Medicine Songs*, as it was on her groundbreaking 1964 debut *It's My Way!* Calling upon a lifetime of song-shaping, she lays synth-driven new pieces like *The War Racket* alongside re-workings of classics like *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* and the pre-WWI traditional *America the Beautiful*. Her bracing *Universal Soldier* remains the definitive anti-war anthem of the 20th century, and Sainte-Marie continues to shine a light on urgent subject matter including environmental destruction, corporate greed, and Indigenous rights.

In a climate of damaging misinformation and toxic hubris, Buffy Sainte-Marie's honesty, clarity and compassion is part musical healing, part urgent wakeup call.

Makaya McCraven | SAT OCT 15 at 8PM

Makaya McCraven has "quietly become one of the best arguments for jazz's vitality" (*The New York Times*). The Paris-born, Massachusetts-raised, Chicago-based drummer, composer, producer, and sonic collagist is a multi-talented "cultural synthesizer" whose inventive process and intuitive, cinematic sound defies categorization.

For this very unique world debut, McCraven has assembled a large ensemble of his close collaborators, each an accomplished 21st century jazz musician in their own rite, to perform music from his soon-to-be-announced new album, which releases this Fall on International Anthem, Nonesuch & XL Recordings.

Oumou Sangaré | SUN OCT 23 at 8PM

Hailed as "The Songbird of Wassoulou" and "one of the great queens of Malian music" by *Rolling Stone*, Oumou Sangaré is a Grammy and UNESCO Award-winning Malian superstar and feminist icon. The charismatic singer shares bold, empowering messages that champion women's rights, tradition and poverty. Though she often touches on difficult themes—both politically and emotionally—her songs remain defiantly uplifting. Sangaré's joyful, soulful voice meets buoyant West African grooves and hypnotic melodicism with a message of hope and healing.

When the global pandemic hit in 2020, Sangaré was forced to remain in the US far longer than the short trip she had originally planned. But this unexpected period of respite gave rise to her latest album *Timbuktu*, the most deeply poetic and sonically ambitious statement of Sangaré's career.

Falling Out of Time | SAT OCT 29 at 8PM

Falling Out of Time is a new work from the Grammy-winning composer Osvaldo Golijov. Rooted in David Grossman's novel of the same name, this infinitely nuanced story in voices narrates a profound journey of grief and solace, a journey "out of time" as parents grieve the death of a child, a quest to comprehend a loss with no name.

This collaboration is born out of the conviction that, in the words of David Grossman "there is one place, or rather, one dimension, where we can feel, if only for an instant, both the absolute nihilism of death and the full abundance of life. That dimension is art."

Concert generously supported by The Azrieli Foundation, The Arnold and Anita Silber Foundation, and Isaac and Judy Thau

Sandeep Das | SAT FEB 18 at 8PM

Since debuting at age 17 with legendary sitarist Ravi Shankar, Sandeep Das has established himself as one of the world's leading tabla maestros. A Grammy-winning musician and Guggenheim Fellow, Das has been part of Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble for over two decades and worked with iconic orchestras like the Boston Symphony and New York Philharmonic, to name a few.

Called "profoundly beautiful music" by *The Sydney Morning Herald*, his Delhi to Damascus project uses voice, tabla, sitar, bansuri, and oud to explore the shared riches of Indian and Middle Eastern musical traditions. Sandeep Das and The HUM Ensemble bring together North Indian ragas and Arabic maqam, demonstrating both contemporary possibilities as well as the shared heritage of their cultures. It's a "roadmap for irresistible aural adventures" (*Downbeat Magazine*), no passport required.

Anderson & Roe Piano Duo | SAT MAR 4 at 8PM

Known for their adrenalized performances, original compositions, and innovative music videos, Greg Anderson and Elizabeth Joy Roe are revolutionizing the piano duo experience for the 21st century in their vision to make classical music a relevant and powerful force in society. The Billboard chart-topping duo, known as Anderson & Roe, will present a program of riveting variety and virtuosity, featuring music from Mozart to the Beatles, with a special spotlight on Steinway's Spirio player piano. At the heart of the program is a set devoted to the sublime, including their inspired *Hallelujah Variations on a Theme* by Leonard Cohen.

Fatoumata Diawara | FRI APR 14 at 8PM

Hailed as a vital standard-bearer for modern African music, Grammy-nominated singer, songwriter, and actor Fatoumata Diawara is one of the most compelling voices of her generation. Her heartfelt melodies transform her concerts into spiritual experiences all while weaving between a wide range of musical styles from blues, funk, and rock to syncopated Afropop. Throughout her music and activism, Diawara sings for the children of her homeland, the need for women's leadership and voices to be heard, and for humanity to overcome its differences. Her songs are bold, experimental, yet deeply rooted in tradition— and with one foot connected to her ancestors, Diawara soundtracks a vibrant and joyful vision for the future.

Her latest album, *Maliba*, tells the important story of protecting the Timbuktu Manuscripts, a collection of historic cultural artifacts that were threatened with destruction in her homeland of Mali.

The Journeyed Compass with Dinuk Wijeratne & Friends | FRI MAY 5 at 8PM

Multi-award-winning musicians Layale Chaker, Kinan Azmeh, and Dinuk Wijeratne come together to create highly distinctive music that draw from a confluence of cultural influences. Chaker, a Lebanese violinist and composer, Azmeh, a Syrian clarinetist and composer, and Wijeratne, a Sri Lankan composer, conductor, and pianist, are each known for their inventive and genre-defying work. For this transporting concert, Middle Eastern and South Asian music mix for a soulful program inspired by the idea of what 'home' means to us all.

Ticketing

Past Chan Presents subscribers have the exclusive opportunity to purchase their subscription packages in advance of the general public. Subscription packages for the general public will go on sale June 30. Single tickets go on sale July 13. Students and self-identifying Indigenous peoples are eligible for 50% off tickets.

Ticket Office: chan.tickets@ubc.ca or 604.822.2697
Website: chancentre.com

About the Chan Centre for Performing Arts

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.

Link to artist photos

chancentre.com/press-downloads

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