



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 22, 2020

**Jazz vocalist Magos Herrera and string quartet Brooklyn Rider collaborate for *Dreamers* project, honouring Latin American art as a political act**

**Vancouver, BC — The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts** at the University of British Columbia presents **Magos Herrera and Brooklyn Rider** in an exclusive online concert premiere of their collaboration *Dreamers*, part of the virtual Dot Com Series. Originally recorded at the International Cervantino Festival in Guanajuato, Mexico, the concert will premiere on Friday, February 12, 2021 at 7pm PST with a virtual watch party and live chat, and will remain available for on demand viewing until May 31, 2021. In advance of the premiere, there will be a live pre-show artist talk with Magos Herrera and Brooklyn Rider’s Colin Jacobsen via Zoom at 6:15pm PST.

**Magos Herrera** is “without a doubt the best jazz singer out of Mexico, and is establishing herself among the best singers in jazz” (*JazzTimes*). Hailed as ““The future of chamber music” (*Strings Magazine*), the dizzyingly eclectic Brooklyn Rider features violinists **Johnny Gandelsman** and **Colin Jacobsen**, violist **Nicholas Cords**, and cellist **Michael Nicolas**. They are joined for this performance by guest percussionist **Mathias Kunzli**.

*Dreamers* celebrates music as a political act by imaginatively reinterpreting gems from the Ibero-American songbook (Caetano Veloso, João Gilberto, and more) alongside new pieces adapted from texts written by Octavio Paz, Rubén Darío, Federico García Lorca, and other poets from regions that endured brutal state violence. Herrera stresses that these are beautiful songs, but beauty with purpose: “It’s important to remember that every big change in history happened because someone dared to dream about it.”

“Magos Herrera and Brooklyn Rider’s *Dreamers* is a moving, timely musical expression of an important issue in today’s socio-political landscape,” says Dr. T. Patrick Carrabré, Director of the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. “This collaboration, honouring the work of some of Latin America’s most influential artists who defied the odds—performed by a remarkable group of musicians—is a terrific example of the power of the arts to ignite conversation and provide context for the world around us. I know audiences will find this performance both entertaining and impactful.”

Born in Mexico City and based out of New York, Magos Herrera has been regarded as one of the most accomplished and active vocalists in the contemporary Latin American jazz scene for more than two decades. Singing in Spanish, English, and Portuguese, she has collaborated with artists such as Kronos Quartet’s Jeff Zeigler, visual artist Erika Harrsch, pianist and vocalist Fito Páez, and producers Javier Limon and Tim Ries. In addition to her work as a musician, Herrera is a passionate social justice and women’s rights advocate and currently serves as spokesperson for UN Women. She has also spent time as an educator, teaching vocal technique courses and master classes and institutions around the world, and is a curator and artistic advisor for National Sawdust, one of Brooklyn’s newest and most innovative venues led by Artistic Director Paola Prestini.

For more than 15 years, Brooklyn Rider has offered eclectic repertoire in gripping performances that continue to attract legions of fans and draw rave reviews. In addition to their work on *Dreamers*, the

quartet recently debuted their *Healing Modes* project which presents Beethoven's *String Quartet No. 15, Op 132* alongside new commissions by Reena Esmail, Gabriela Lena Frank, Matana Roberts, and Caroline Shaw. Other recent projects include an album with Anne Sofie von Otter entitled *So Many Things* and its live tour which included stops at Carnegie Hall and the Opernhaus Zurich, a tour with choreographer Brian Brooks and former New York City Ballet prima ballerina Wendy Whelan titled *Some of a Thousand Words*, and collaborations with past Chan Centre artists such as banjoist Béla Fleck, jazz saxophonist Joshua Redman, and Irish fiddle master Martin Hayes.

### **About the Dot Com Series**

The Chan Centre Dot Com Series launched in September 2020 in light of restrictions on gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Delivered 100% online, the series features a wide range of remarkable performing artists, both locally and internationally based, bringing Chan Centre audiences exclusive performances filmed both at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts and elsewhere around the world. Past performers include Jeremy Dutcher, PIQSIQ, Cristina Pato, Brendan McLeod, and the Amir Amiri Ensemble.

### **About the Chan Centre for Performing Arts at UBC**

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**

Dates:	<b>Magos Herrera and Brooklyn Rider (online only)</b> Watch online from February 12, 2021
Online Ticket Prices:	\$0/\$10/\$20 (Supported/General/Supportive)
Address:	Chan Centre for the Performing Arts University of British Columbia 6265 Crescent Road Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1
Ticket Office:	<a href="mailto:chan.tickets@ubc.ca">chan.tickets@ubc.ca</a>
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>

-30-

---

**For further media information:**  
Claire Mohun | 604-822-1241  
[claire.mohun@ubc.ca](mailto:claire.mohun@ubc.ca)  
Chan Centre for the Performing Arts