

MEDIA RELEASE

THE ROSE'S 2018 – 2019 SEASON: OUR CITY, OUR STAGE

FEATURING OVER 100 PERFORMANCES, INTERNATIONAL STARS, BIG CANADIAN TALENT, LOCAL ARTISTS AND MORE

Brampton, ON (May 9, 2018) – The Rose is thrilled to present a richly diverse performing arts season highlighting acclaimed local, national and international talent. Brendan Healy, Artistic Director of Performing Arts, today announced his inaugural season, which from July 2018 – April 2019 includes a wide range of theatre, music, dance and comedy.

“I am very inspired by the vibrancy and energy of Brampton. It is a diverse, youthful and ambitious city, and we have sought to capture Brampton’s eclectic dynamism with this upcoming season,” Healy said.

The Rose’s music series features a host of international stars including Don MacLean and Marcia Griffiths dubbed the Queen of Reggae, as well as Amjad Ali Khan and Dr. Subramaniam, two of India’s most celebrated artists. The lineup also includes a significant number of world-renowned Canadian musical legends including Holly Cole, Jim Cuddy and Chantal Kreviazuk.

Theatre and dance programming abound with stories and themes relevant to the current social, political and economic climate. *A Brimful of Asha* (October 5 – 6, 2018) humorously explores intergenerational clashes; *This is the Point* (March 1 – 2, 2019) highlights the raw, individual experiences of living with cerebral palsy; *Traces*, a Red Sky Performance, explores Indigenous connections to ancestral origins and all things traceable through dance (November 22, 2018); and *Cottagers and Indians* (November 6 – 7, 2018) looks at the conflicting differences between cultures and economic status.

The ever-popular family series is bigger than ever with a full offering of family-fun this season with Brampton’s first-ever show for babies, the award-winning *One Thing Leads to Another* (January 26, 2019) by Young People’s Theatre, Mini-Pop Kids and more.

The Rose is committed to highlighting local artists and partnering with local organizations to reflect, foster and celebrate the community in which it serves. Partners include The Festival of Literary Diversity, Sikh Heritage Month, The Caribbean Music Entertainment Awards, The Rose Orchestra, Brampton Concert Band and a special collaboration with Flower City Bhangra to present North America’s largest Bhangra competition.

New this season, The Rose has launched THIS IS BRAMPTON – a raw and up-close series that provides an open platform for local talent, organizations and initiatives as well as an opportunity for multi-disciplinary artistic development in Studio II.

“We are thrilled to offer Brampton’s young and upcoming talent a performance space to hone their skills and to provide audiences a place to discover the stars of tomorrow,” said Healy. Key curators

of the series include [Brampton's Very Own](#), [Brampton Says](#), [Sound Drive Records](#), [MoMondays](#), [B-Jazzed](#), [Unpeeled](#) and [Broadening Horizons](#).

Tickets to The Rose's 2018 – 2019 season range from \$10 - \$80, and can be purchased through [rosetheatre.ca](#) or by phone at 905.874.2800. Tickets go on public sale May 26 at 10 a.m. 2017 – 2018 subscribers can access tickets in advance from May 24 at midnight.

The Rose has also launched a new Membership program. Those who purchase tickets to multiple shows (3, 4, or 5+) will enjoy exclusive benefits in addition to their reduced ticket rate. More details about the program will be available in fall 2018.

For the full schedule and to learn more about The Rose's 2018 – 2019 season, visit [rosetheatre.ca](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

6th Annual Caribbean Music Entertainment Awards, September 23, 2018 – The Caribbean Music Entertainment Awards celebrates the best in Caribbean and Latin American entertainment worldwide. Now in its 6th year, the CME Awards has established itself as one of Brampton's most exciting events.

Don McLean, February 7, 2019 – One of America's most enduring singer-songwriters, Don McLean is best known for his classic hits, *American Pie* and *Vincent (Starry Starry Night)*. He has amassed over 40 gold and platinum records worldwide and was inducted into the Songwriters' Hall of Fame in 2004. McLean's Brampton performance is a rare Canadian stop for the musician.

How Black Mothers Say I Love You, March 19 & 20, 2019 – From Brampton native Trey Anthony, author of the blockbuster hit *'da Kink in my hair*, comes an emotional and raw look into family dynamics, trust, resolution and change. Performed for the first time in Brampton, *How Black Mothers Say I Love You* is Trey Anthony's most thought-provoking play.

Amjad Ali Khan, April 13, 2019 – World-renowned master musician Amjad Ali Khan is credited with reinventing the technique of playing the sarod, a stringed instrument prominent in Hindustani music. Over the course of a distinguished career spanning more than six decades, Khan has garnered numerous accolades including a Grammy nomination.

Kevin Nealon, April 28, 2019 – Best known as a cast member on *Saturday Night Live*, Kevin Nealon has enjoyed a flourishing career as one of the world's greatest comedians. He brings his stand-up act to Brampton for one night only, to close out The Rose's 2018 – 2019 season.

CANADIAN LEGENDS

Moon vs. Sun: Raine Maida and Chantal Kreviazuk, October 2, 2018 – Writing together for the first time, Maida and Kreviazuk touch on their lives and partnership with lyrical honesty, while creating music based on their most profound influences – Joni Mitchell, Leonard Cohen and Neil Young.

Kardinal Offishall, October 5, 2018 – From his start in Toronto's underground hip-hop scene in the

90s, Kardinal garnered success through his tongue-in-cheek lyrics, integration of Patois and dancehall and spirited stage presence. Toronto artist Alx Valiz shares the stage.

Jim Cuddy, November 30, 2018 – As one of the founding members and creative forces behind Blue Rodeo, Jim Cuddy has written songs that have become indelible to the soundtrack of Canadian lives for over 35 years. Jim Cuddy is joined for a special performance with his sons, Devin Cuddy and Sam Polley.

Holly Cole, February 22, 2019 – Canadian jazz singer Holly Cole takes tunes that everybody thinks they know and discovers new undercurrents, wrapping her honesty, compassion and sardonic wit around their creations. The results are sexy, provocative, spellbinding, sometimes dangerous, but never dull.

FOCUS ON BRAMPTON

Flower City Bhangra Competition, August 4, 2018 – The Rose partners with Brampton's Flower City Bhangra to host the Flower City Bhangra Competition, the largest of its kind in North America.

The Rose Orchestra, Various Dates – The Rose Orchestra celebrates its 8th season with five performances, from October to April. Led by new conductor Oliver Balaburski.

Brampton Concert Band, Various Dates – Brampton Concert Band explores film, musicals and classic holiday favourites. Special guests Sharron Matthews and Michael Hughes join their April show.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Michael Kaeshammer, Headliner, World of Jazz Festival, September 7, 2018 – Canadian jazz artist Michael Kaeshammer kicks off Brampton's 2nd annual World of Jazz Festival, presented by B-Jazzed. Seven-time JUNO nominee and winner of the 2017 WCMA for Best Jazz Artist, Kaeshammer joins a diverse group of musicians at this year's festival to explore how the word "jazz" is interpreted worldwide.

Exco Levi, September 29, 2018 – Get up-close with Exco Levi as he drops his third studio album at The Rose. Born in Manchester and raised in Jamaica, Levi quickly took hold of the Canadian reggae scene after immigrating to Canada in 2005. His songs have helped forge an entirely new style of music and rhythm that is revolutionary, fiery, scathing, loving and stinging.

Nana McLean, April 6, 2019 – Canadian reggae icon, JUNO Award-winning Nana Maclean, releases her fourth studio album *NANA NOW* at The Rose. Nana's career is highlighted with numerous awards, nominations, presentations and recognition, including the 2015 pioneer award from the Caribbean Music & Entertainment Awards.

The Rose's ongoing partnerships with The Festival of Literary Diversity (FoLD) and Sikh Heritage

Month continues with special programming in April and May 2019.

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Our City. Our Stage.

The Rose is a magnificent performing arts centre and an iconic feature of Downtown Brampton. A vital part of the city, The Rose is a destination for local and world-renowned performers, providing authentic opportunities for culture-lovers from Brampton and beyond to experience a wide range of talent in an extraordinary setting. Architecturally and acoustically remarkable, The Rose boasts two performance venues for large shows and intimate experiences. The Rose Season features over 100 productions per year, comprised of theatre, music, dance, comedy and cultural events. The Rose is where Brampton comes to life. Explore the 2018 – 2019 season at rosetheatre.ca.

The Rose gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Northwest Lexus, Sterling Dentistry, Bramalea City Centre, Big Rock Brewery, Downtown Brampton BIA, and The Corporation of the City of Brampton. The Rose is pleased to recognize annual donors for their continuous support.

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