

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Executive Director, Rotary Centre for the Arts

Email: director@rotarycentreforthearts.com

519-501-9673

For Immediate Release – May 20th, 2021

The Rotary Centre for the Arts and SoundON Present Virtual Concerts with Kentucky Eileen & Indigenous Singer Kym Gouchie

(Kelowna, BC.) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) and SoundOn presents two virtual concerts featuring Okanagan musicians Kentucky Eileen and Indigenous singer/songwriter Kym Gouchie on Kelowna's local streaming service, Unicorns Live. These shows are presented with support from SoundOn, Creative BC, BC Arts Council, BC Touring Council, and the Province of BC support to re-engage the music scene in Kelowna and surrounding Okanagan communities.

Karma Lacoff Nieoczym, RCA Theatre Programming Coordinator, says, "We all miss in-person and live events. Virtual shows are a way for us to support dynamic artists who are toughing it out and rolling with the times and engage our community. We are happy to provide the opportunity for our patrons to view both the Kentucky Eileen and Kym Gouchie performances from the comfort of their homes."

Kentucky Eileen

Kentucky Eileen is a new folk quartet born from the bush in the South interior of BC. Their music is based around melodic swells and four-part harmony; four of BC's most beloved musical personalities comprise the lineup; Joshua Smith (The Trips), Dan Tait (Tiger Moon), Sam Balson (Dope Folk), and Mitchell Howanyk (Wild Son).

Kentucky Eileen acknowledges that Roger Miller and Ricky Skaggs inspired their music. This quartet takes traditional American folk music and gives it a supremely Canadian flavour - sonically akin to The Band. The band members are all multi-instrumentalists, experienced storytellers, and storied entertainers - prepared to bring a spectacular show.

This show streams live on **Saturday, May 29**th at **7:30 pm.** and is an interactive online experience where the Kentucky Eileen band members will engage the audience throughout the night. Unicorns Live is making the recording of this concert available to stream on-demand until Friday, June 4th.

Tickets are available HERE

Kelowna Visual and Performing Arts Centre Society 421 Cawston Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 6Z1 p: (250) 717-5304 f: (250) 717-5314

Kym Gouchie Trio

With ancestral roots in the Lheidli T'enneh, Cree, and Secwépemc Nations, Kym Gouchie is fostering change through her music and art. Her music brings awareness to First Nations and women's issues, promoting reconciliation and community building while reminding us that we are all in this together. Her stories are a testament to the human spirit, weaving together threads of her journey from personal tragedy to triumph.

Peter North, Artistic Director of Salmon Arm Roots & Blues, describes Kym Gouchie as "... an artist who has the ability to momentarily make us feel that time can stand still. Performing with a combination of soulful expression, focused intent, integrity, and artistic depth, Gouchie embraces and holds audiences while imparting messages and truths in songs that need to be heard. Kym Gouchie is a force..."

This Kym Gouchie Trio presentation is a prerecorded performance, followed by a Q&A with Kym Gouchie and RCA's Karma Lacoff Nieoczym. We are encouraging our audiences to engage and ask questions on the night of the show.

Kym Gouchie Trio is presented with RCA's streaming and ticket partners Unicorns Live on **Saturday, June 5th at 7:30 pm**. The show and recording of the Q&A that follows will be available on Unicorns Live until Friday, June 11th.

Tickets are available at HERE.

Learn more about the bands: <u>Kentucky Eileen</u> Kym Gouchie

- 10 -

About the Rotary Centre for the Arts

Located in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the Rotary Centre for the Arts is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA continually strives to improve the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. As a world-class venue celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines, the Rotary Centre for the Arts is a unique City of Kelowna facility in which individuals of all ages and backgrounds come together to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) people.