

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Colleen Fitzpatrick, *Executive Director, Rotary Centre for the Arts*

Email: [director@rotarycentreforthearts.com](mailto:director@rotarycentreforthearts.com)

---

For immediate release: October 1, 2025

**Rotary Centre for the Arts Presents Jazz Visionary**  
**Rudresh Mahanthappa's Hero Trio**  
***Director of Jazz at Princeton University***

(Kelowna, BC) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts is thrilled to present Rudresh Mahanthappa's Hero Trio led by acclaimed alto saxophonist Rudresh Mahanthappa live in concert at Mary Irwin Theatre on Thursday, October 16, 2025, as part of the 2025–2026 RCA Presents season. Hero Trio blends fearless improvisation, deep musical rapport, and forward-thinking jazz language, delivered by three virtuoso musicians who push boundaries while remaining rooted in tradition.

Theatre Programming Director, Andrew Stauffer, says, "Simply stated, Rudresh Mahanthappa is a jazz legend in the making. Whether he's reinventing standards or playing original compositions, his approach is always fresh, innovative, and virtuosic. His bandmates, François Moutin and Tim Angulo, are similarly extraordinarily gifted. This band is the real deal."

Mahanthappa, known internationally for his bold voice and inventive compositional approach, has released more than a dozen albums, and his 2020 *Hero Trio* project is widely considered one of that year's landmark jazz recordings. He has been honoured repeatedly, including multiple designations as alto saxophonist of the year (in *DownBeat*, *JazzTimes*, and by the Jazz Journalists' Association) and holds both the Guggenheim Fellowship and the Doris Duke Performing Artist Award. He also serves as Director of Jazz at Princeton University, where he shapes new generations of forward-facing improvisers.

For this performance, Mahanthappa is joined by bassist François Moutin and drummer Tim Angulo, whose combined artistry and energy complete the trio's compelling and dynamic sound.

Saxophonist Darren Williams will perform an opening set of original solo compositions. Darren Williams is a Canadian saxophonist/bassoonist who pushes the limits of extended instrumental technique into regions that are lyrical, terrifying, uncanny, and "more fun than spiked punch live" (Georgia Straight). Darren has performed with Eugene Chadbourne, Chad van Gaalen, John Oswald, Mats Gustafsson, Han Bennink, and many others.

**Rotary Centre for the Arts**

421 Cawston Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 6Z1 p: (250) 717-5304 f: (250) 717-5314

[info@rotarycentreforthearts.com](mailto:info@rotarycentreforthearts.com) [www.rotarycentreforthearts.com](http://www.rotarycentreforthearts.com)

### **Membership & Ticketing Benefits**

Become an RCA Theatre Member and unlock a world of exclusive benefits while supporting Kelowna's vibrant arts community. For just \$45, membership includes 20% off tickets, early access to performances, priority seating, free exchanges, special promotions, and more, all while contributing to future upgrades and professional arts in our city.

Tickets are on sale now for RCA Theatre Members. Ages 30 and under receive 30% off.

### **To purchase tickets and learn more, visit:**

<https://rotarycentreforthearts.com/events/event/RCAHeroTrio25/>

### **To learn more about theatre memberships:**

<https://rotarycentreforthearts.com/get-involved/become-a-member/>

### **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 improves the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. The RCA brings together individuals of all ages and backgrounds to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Syilx/Okanagan People.

-30-

**Rotary Centre for the Arts**

421 Cawston Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 6Z1 p: (250) 717-5304

info@rotarycentreforthearts.com [www.rotarycentreforthearts.com](http://www.rotarycentreforthearts.com)