



**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Tyler Morgenstern, *Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Rotary Centre for the Arts*

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

250-717-5304, ext. 113

---

**For Immediate Release – December 22, 2021**

## Rotary Centre for the Arts Kicks off its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year with Five Diverse Live Performances in the Mary Irwin Theatre

**(Kelowna, BC)** - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) is excited to ring in the new year with an eclectic run of diverse live performances in the Mary Irwin Theatre.

Executive Director Colleen Fitzpatrick says, “For the past nineteen years, the RCA has been Kelowna’s arts and culture hub. To celebrate our 20th anniversary, our team is busy developing a full year of exciting programs and events that will help to reconnect our community after almost two years of disruption. Our winter theatre presentations, which feature some of Canada’s best-known and most decorated performers, are the perfect way to launch what’s sure to be an exciting year at the RCA.”

RCA’s winter offerings get underway on February 12 with a performance from BC duo, **Moontricks**. Featuring the talents of Nathan Gurley and Sean Rodman, Moontricks mashes up folk, blues, and electronic music to create a truly unique audience experience. On February 13, RCA presents an evening with Canadian cultural icon, comedienne, and social activist **Mary Walsh**. In this unique performance, Walsh will perform some of her best comedic bits and most popular characters, along with up-to-the-minute local political satire.

The fun continues on February 15 as Canadian roots-rockers **Blackie and the Rodeo Kings** bring their 25th Anniversary tour to the Mary Irwin stage. Appearing with Indigenous blues-rock duo **Digging Roots**, Blackie and the Rodeo Kings are touring in support of their ninth studio album, *King of This Town*. On March 10, Canadian Blues virtuoso **Sue Foley** takes the stage in support of her new album, *Pinky’s Blues*. On *Pinky’s Blues*, Foley’s well-loved pink paisley Telecaster steps up and steps out, playing the music of the spheres and sharing a love for something so deep and so pure there are no words to truly describe it.

Rounding out the lineup is **Body Parts**, a genre-bending presentation from the interdisciplinary dance company, **Tara Cheyenne Performance** that explores how we feel about, process, and live in our bodies. Karma Lacroix Nieoczym, Theatre Programming Coordinator at the RCA, says “This winter’s lineup is truly outstanding. With offerings ranging from experimental dance to comedy from a member of the Order of Canada, our upcoming RCA Presents shows have something for everyone. We encourage patrons to purchase their tickets early as tickets are limited.” For tickets, visit [rotarycentreforthearts.com](http://rotarycentreforthearts.com).

**High-Res Press Photos Available on Request:** Please contact Tyler Morgenstern at [marketing@rotarycentreforthearts.com](mailto:marketing@rotarycentreforthearts.com)

**About Moontricks:** Nestled deep in the beautiful Kootenay Mountains of Western Canada lies the home of Moontricks, a duo whose timeless sound captures the essence of their rugged roots. Combining their love of folk, blues, and electronic music, Nathan Gurley and Sean Rodman are blazing their own trail, merging musical worlds previously unacquainted and capturing audiences along the way. Since connecting in their rural hometown through a shared love of music, the pair's chemistry was instantly apparent. With Gurley at the production helm and Rodman on songwriting and vocals, they've birthed an authentically raw and seductive sound infusing grassroots blues, wistful soul, and gritty, bootstomping bass. Their breakout organic hit "Home" has surpassed 1 million streams and their music is frequently licensed for film and television.

**About Blackie and the Rodeo Kings:** Blackie and the Rodeo Kings originally formed in 1996 when Colin Linden, Stephen Fearing, and Tom Wilson came together to record what was supposed to be a one-off tribute album to the great Canadian songwriter Willie P. Bennett. At the time, all three members were deeply committed to burgeoning solo careers that they had no intentions of putting on hold, and had no plans to turn Blackie into an ongoing concern. Now twenty and eight albums later, with one JUNO award and several JUNO nominations under their belts, Blackie and the Rodeo Kings have organically evolved into one of the finest roots-oriented bands in North America. Blackie and the Rodeo Kings remains one of Canada's greatest musical treasures.

**About Digging Roots:** Digging Roots breathe life into songs from their land, Turtle Island, to raise their voices in solidarity with a global chorus of Indigenous artists, activists, and change-makers. For over a decade, JUNO Award winners Digging Roots have traveled the world with a joyful message of resistance, celebrating Anishinabe and Onkwehonwe traditions of round dance and interconnectedness interwoven with the bedrock sounds of blues, soul, and rock n' roll.

**About Sue Foley:** Sue Foley has been playing guitar since she was thirteen years old. Like so many other musicians, it was the music of the early Rolling Stones that inducted her into the world of the blues. As she started working with other bands, she made her way to the Mark Hummel group and began touring Canada and northern America. When Austin blues nightclub and label owner, Clifford Antone saw her at the annual Blues Music Awards in Memphis, he knew he'd met an all-timer. Before long, Foley was living in Austin and, in 1992, recorded her debut album *Young Girl Blues*. At the heart of it all has always been the guitar. It's the sound of Sue Foley's soul that comes out of the six strings, and it's no accident that her new album *Pinky's Blues*, is named after her pink paisley Fender Telecaster electric guitar that has been such a major part of Foley's life for all these years.

**About Tara Cheyenne Performance:** Tara Cheyenne Performance (TCP) creates kinetic theatrical expressions through exquisitely realized characters, crafted choreography, unapologetic use of comedy, and lashings of tragedy. TCP's work exists between, within, and outside the 'discipline' of dance. Our use of text and unapologetic comedy open doors to people not familiar with contemporary dance. All their work is based on the wonderful human experience.

#### **About the Rotary Centre for the Arts**

Located in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](http://www.RotaryCentrefortheArts.com) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA continually strives to improve the economic, cultural, and social quality Kelowna Visual and Performing Arts Centre Society 421 Cawston Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 6Z1 p: (250) 717-5304 f: (250) 717-5314

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.