



For Immediate Release

Celebrated Jazz Masters Branford Marsalis and Dianne Reeves Bring Star Power to Werklund Centre with John Coltrane Tribute

September 9, 2026 – CALGARY, AB, CANADA

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of jazz icon and innovator John Coltrane, contemporary jazz legends Branford Marsalis and Dianne Reeves will perform together for an unforgettable evening at the Jack Singer Concert Hall. Werklund Centre is thrilled to welcome the multi-GRAMMY Award-winning artists, alongside the Branford Marsalis Quartet, for a powerful celebration of Coltrane's enduring influence on the art of jazz.

Branford Marsalis & Dianne Reeves Celebrate John Coltrane on Wednesday, October 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the **Jack Singer Concert Hall** at **Werklund Centre**. For more information visit werklundcentre.ca/coltrane.



Saxophonist Branford Marsalis stands among the most influential and revered figures in contemporary music. The NEA Jazz master, three-time GRAMMY Award winner, and Tony and EMMY Award nominee is equally at home performing concertos with symphony orchestras or sitting in with members of the Grateful Dead, but the core of his musical universe remains the Branford Marsalis Quartet. After receiving GRAMMY nominations on its last two albums, *Upward Spiral* and *The Secret Between the Shadow and the Soul*, the Quartet made its Blue Note Records debut in 2025 with the release of *Belonging*, a full album interpretation of Keith Jarrett's 1974 ECM album of the same name.



Five-time GRAMMY winner Dianne Reeves is the world's foremost jazz vocalist. Recognized for her exceptional talent, improvisation, and distinctive jazz and R&B style, Reeves received the GRAMMY for "Best Jazz Vocal Performance" for three consecutive recordings — a GRAMMY first in any vocal category. Her most recent release, the GRAMMY Award-winning *Beautiful Life*, includes collaborations with Gregory Porter, Robert Glasper, Lalah Hathaway and Esperanza Spalding. Reeves has received honorary doctorates from DePaul University, the Berklee College of Music and The Juilliard School, and like Branford, she was designated a Jazz Master by The National Endowment for the Arts — the highest honour the United States bestows on jazz artists.

"John Coltrane, in his genius, developed a parallel sonic and intellectual understanding of ecumenical, 40s swing, and early R&B and post-bop, to create a sound that, while intellectually challenging, is emotionally stimulating," says Marsalis. "His embodiment of all these sides of music is what any musician – of any style – should strive to achieve. It was our privilege to honour his contributions to jazz."

Dianne Reeves adds, "I can't wait to see where we take the music. I told Branford we may even need to dance."

Joining the two jazz masters on stage will be the members of Marsalis' longstanding quartet: pianist Joey Calderazzo, bassist Eric Revis and drummer Justin Faulkner. Together, they will channel the energy of musical genius and saxophone virtuoso John Coltrane live on stage.

"John Coltrane changed what people believed jazz could be, and a century after his birth, we're still discovering the reach of that influence," says Werklund Centre President and CEO Alex Sarian. "To welcome Branford Marsalis and Dianne Reeves, two extraordinary artists who have shaped the art form in their own right, to Calgary for this celebration is incredibly special. Great cities are places where the world's most important artists and ideas come into conversation with the people who live there. This is one of those moments, and it belongs in Calgary."

Branford Marsalis & Dianne Reeves Celebrate John Coltrane

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Performance: 7:30 p.m.

Jack Singer Concert Hall at Werklund Centre

Tickets available by calling 403-294-9494 or visit werklundcentre.ca/coltrane.

Werklund Centre wishes to express our sincere appreciation to supporting sponsor SerVantage as well as our public sector supporters the Government of Canada,



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Government of Alberta and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and our friends at The City of Calgary.

For media inquiries or more information contact:

Alex Bonyun
Community and Media Relations Manager
Werklund Centre

abonyun@werklundcentre.ca
403-294-7429

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Werklund Centre

Werklund Centre (formerly Arts Commons) is the steward of Western Canada's largest arts centre and the artistic and civic cornerstone of Calgary's downtown core that fosters the arts through live performance, educational opportunities, and artist development programs. For 40 years, it has been a key contributor to the social, economic, cultural, and intellectual life and well-being of Calgarians—a commitment that is being renewed through the Werklund Centre Transformation project, the largest cultural infrastructure project in Canadian history. It is home to five resident companies, including Alberta Theatre Projects, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Downstage, Theatre Calgary, and One Yellow Rabbit. It houses six gallery spaces, five theatres, a concert hall, rehearsal and education spaces, costume and scene shops, and a restaurant.