



For Immediate Release

Werklund Centre Uplifts Joy this Season in a Celebration of Peace with Soweto Gospel Choir

November 27, 2025 – CALGARY, AB, CANADA

One of the world's most celebrated choirs is poised to bring their spectacular new show, *Peace*, to Calgary. Three-time GRAMMY Award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir is a powerhouse of the choral world, showcasing all the colour, vibrancy, and history of South Africa in a one-of-a-kind live performance. Werklund Centre is thrilled to be a part of sharing this artistic and cultural mainstay with our city during the holiday season. **Soweto Gospel Choir: *Peace*** takes place on **Sunday, December 21 at 7:30 p.m.** in the **Jack Singer Concert Hall at Werklund Centre**. Learn more at werklundcentre.ca/soweto.



“We are spreading the peace that we have, the freedom that we fought for,” says Mary Mulovhedzi of Soweto Gospel Choir. “We’re sharing the story of South Africa’s rich history, the way we praise God, and we’re flying our flag very high and bringing hope and joy.”

Soweto Gospel Choir goes beyond live performance, creating a platform for dialogue, cultural connection, and reconciliation. Through their uplifting voices, Soweto celebrates



American and South African artists associated with the struggles for civil rights and social justice throughout their countries' complex histories including songs made timeless by musicians like Michael Jackson and Stevie Wonder. They believe that music has the power to not only stir emotions but also unite people through transformative actions. In addition to highlights from their album, the 19-member choir will also interweave holiday favourites as an extra seasonal touch.

Described by Australia's Glam Adelaide, "the musicality of the Soweto Gospel Choir is like nothing I've ever heard. Their intricate harmonies are perfectly executed. This is indeed a celebration of music." From Freemandle Shipping News, Soweto Gospel Choir is "absolutely brilliant," performed by "an insanely talented group of singers," says X-press magazine. The Scotsman says, "Nothing can really prepare you for the riot of exuberance and depth of emotion."

Formed in 2002, Soweto Gospel Choir takes its name from the township of Soweto on the outskirts of Johannesburg. The choir quickly gained recognition as their first album *Voices of Heaven* hit No. 1 on Billboard's World Music Chart within three weeks of its release in the United States. A year later they were recognized by American Gospel Music Awards with Best International Choir and Australia's prestigious Helpmann Award for Best Contemporary Music Concert. They have only gained momentum since, earning numerous awards, accolades and prestigious appearances. In 2019, Soweto Gospel Choir won their third GRAMMY Award for Best World Music Album for their latest album *Freedom*, a collection of songs which commemorate South Africa's democratic movement's struggle for freedom.

Outside of their impressive performance highlights, they are also Ambassadors for SHOUT, 1Goal, United Nation's MDG Envoys for Africa and Interpol's "Proud to Be" campaign and founded their own AIDS orphans' foundation, Nkosi's Haven Vukani.

"Welcoming the world-renowned Soweto Gospel Choir to Calgary is a tremendous honour for all of us at Werklund Centre. Their newest show is an artistic triumph—rooted in musical excellence while offering a powerful reminder of our shared humanity," says Alex Sarian, President and CEO of Werklund Centre. "During a season defined by hope, joy, and connection, their music brings a spirit that transcends borders and invites our city to come together in celebration."

Soweto Gospel Choir: *Peace*

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Presentation: 7:30 p.m.

Jack Singer Concert Hall at Werklund Centre

Lobby Preshow featuring: The Timothonius Gospel Ensemble



Werklund Centre

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

Werklund Centre wishes to express our sincere appreciation to supporting sponsors ALSA Construction and SerVantage Services, and public sector supporters the Government of Canada, the Government of Alberta through the Alberta Foundation for the Arts and our friends at The City of Calgary.

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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. 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.