

MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release

TD Amplify's Last Chance Performance! *Wakefield Brewster Presents, Pt. 4* Showcases Beloved Local Artists in a Tableau of Talent from Arts Commons Presents

May 15, 2024 - CALGARY – In the fourth and final installment of the 2023-24 TD Amplify series from Arts Commons Presents, local artists Jeremy Furlong, John F. Gerrard, Kaja Irwin, and Chloe Stankowski bring their energy to the stage through music, comedy, spoken word, and dance, demonstrating the wellspring of talent that Calgary has to share. Join **Arts Commons Presents** for *Wakefield Brewster Presents, Pt. 4* on **June 7 & 8, 2024 at 8 p.m.** live in the underground **Engineered Air Theatre at Arts Commons**. Learn more at artscommons.ca/amplify.

What started as an “if you know, you know” event, the TD Amplify series is blazing a creative path through the centre of Calgary’s arts landscape, inviting audiences to be the first to experience the leading edge of what’s new in our local scene. It’s been called “a rich inclusion of culture, identity, and expression” that is “beyond expectations” and “phenomenal!” and audiences are invited to be part of the energy in the underground Engineered Air Theatre afterparty.

Wakefield Brewster Presents, Pt. 4, features four names iconic to their fields in Calgary: comedian Jeremy Furlong who has had Calgarians laughing since 2005, writer and evocative visual artist John F. Gerrard, dancer and Decidedly Jazz Danceworks company member Kaja Irwin, and multi-award-winning musician and public speaker Chloe Stankowski. And Wakefield Brewster himself will return with his newest creative adventure - *PoeThree* - to cap off this evening showcasing local talent.

“Wakefield has set the creative bar very high for the artist cohort this season, and if the energy, applause, after parties are any indication of the success of this final edition, I think it’s fair to say that it’ll be something to remember,” says Joshua Dalledonne, Associate Director of Creative at Arts Commons. *“It’s an honour and a privilege to support and amplify these artists with their fans, friends, and family and we’re incredibly grateful for their trust in us to do just that.”*

Calgary Poet Laureate and curator of the TD Incubator program, Wakefield Brewster, brought “people puzzle” his unique theme to the 2023-24 season of the TD Amplify series. Through a year of development with their fellow artists, Brewster’s vision saw the artists gaining new pieces and discarded others, stepping forward with a version of themselves altered by their collaborative time together.

“It’s a celebration because it’s a graduation from everything that we’ve accomplished together this year,” says Wakefield Brewster. *“We have all grown through this process and in many ways, I’m taking away as many learnings as I’ve shared. Nothing in my life can compare to what I’ve experienced with these artists this past season, and it’s my hope that they feel the same.”*

The performers of the TD Amplify series are members of the TD Incubator artist development program, which provides performance and exhibition opportunities in addition to networking, professional development, and mentorship. Each season of TD Incubator is guided by the leadership of the program Fellow(s), which have previously included Jae Sterling and Contra, and Sargeant x Comrade. Arts Commons is thrilled to have continued this outstanding artistic

MEDIA RELEASE



leadership tradition with Wakefield Brewster, alumnus of the TD Incubator program himself in addition to being the 2022 – 2024 Calgary Poet Laureate. Stay tuned for the announcement of the 2024-25 TD Incubator Fellow. Learn more at artscommons.ca/incubator.

Arts Commons Presents wishes to express our sincere appreciation to Naming Sponsor TD Bank Group as well as our friends at the Government of Canada through the Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Alberta and the City of Calgary.

For media inquiries, high resolution images, or more information contact:
Alex Bonyun, Communications Manager
403-870-2810 abonyun@artscommons.ca

Arts Commons Presents invites you to discover the transformative power of the Arts. As the programming arm of Arts Commons, the largest performing arts centre in Western Canada, Arts Commons Presents is one manifestation of this mandate, achieved through the programming and presenting of our in-house series: BD&P World Stage, Classic Albums Live, National Geographic Live, TD Amplify series, as well as special presentations. Through this work, we are able to do our part to further enrich our city, as well as create opportunities for Calgary-based artists to perform, exhibit, reach new audiences, and grow on a multitude of levels.

-##-