

# 2023/2024 ACT Presents Season Line-Up Announced

## Variety of Uplifting Live Performances Welcomes Audiences to an Expanded Season

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, June 12, 2023 – Maple Ridge, BC –**

The Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Arts Council has announced the 2023- 2024 season of live performances at The ACT Arts Centre in Maple Ridge

“With this new season, we are excited to continue to reconnect audiences to the live performances they love,” says Curtis Pendleton, The ACT’s Artistic and Executive Director.

Starting in September, Opening Night welcomes multiple Juno-award winning singer/songwriter **Jimmy Rankin**, who will fill the mainstage with a ‘kitchen party’ of maritime musical styles. Other headliners are Canadian Comic Icon **Mary Walsh**, comedian **Brent Butt** and the popular indie rock band **Said the Whale**. Other Mainstage performances include **Grant Lawrence and Friends**; **RIDGE** – an unforgettable and moving piece created by Brendan McLeod and the Fugitives in honour of the Canadian soldiers who lost their lives at Vimy Ridge; **Ballet Rocks** with Ballet Victoria; **Sunday with Sondheim**, featuring members of City Opera Vancouver and **BOOM X**, a rollicking high-powered show about all things Generation X.

After a sold-out series in 22/23, The Listening Lounge Series continues, with country/folk group **The Travelling Mabels**, Soul and R&B powerhouse vocalist **Tanika Charles**, the eclectic and playful **Quartetto Gelato**, country/folk group **Jackson Hollow**, celebrated jazz pianist and vocalist **Champion Fulton**, and closes with Celtic fiddle and guitar masters, the **Schryer, Dobres and Hillhouse Trio**. After a three- year hiatus, the Theatre Series welcomes back Arts Club productions **The Birds and The Bees**, **Beneath Springhill** and **Made in Italy**.

Holiday programming has expanded: In addition to Ballet Victoria’s **The Nutcracker** and **Winterharp**, The ACT welcomes back acclaimed comedian Mike Delamont in his **God is a Scottish Drag Queen** Christmas Special, and Early Music Vancouver returns with **A Baroque Christmas**, featuring members of the Pacific Baroque Orchestra and acclaimed director Alexander Weimann.

For families, a ‘first theatre experience’ for the littlest audiences will create a ‘story tent’ for children aged 18 months to 4 years, in an enchanting experience by Quebec’s Le Théâtre des Confettis entitled **Waves, all that glows sees**. On Family Day, **VENTASTIC** - Reimagining the Art of Ventriloquism will delight in an hilarious and entertaining show for the whole family.

The Sunday Chamber Music Series, curated by violinist and UBC Professor David Gillham, resumes, in 5 concerts, inviting classical fans and curious newcomers to a series themed on ‘The Music of Youth’ featuring astonishing works by young prodigies. The series concludes with one of the most exciting young string quartets on the world stage, the **Viano Quartet**, winners of the Banff International String Quartet Competition and recently appointed in-residence at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Bowers Program from 2024-2027.

Tickets are available online [www.theactmapleridge.org/act-presents](http://www.theactmapleridge.org/act-presents), in person at The ACT Arts Centre located at 11944 Haney Place, Monday to Saturday from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm, or by phone at 604-476-2787.

## ABOUT THE ACT ARTS CENTRE

The ACT Arts Centre, opened in 2003, is operated by the Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Arts Council, and provides excellence in live professional Performing Arts Presentations. Arts Learning Programs, Gallery Exhibitions, along with being home to many cultural and community events. Reaching over 70,000 patrons annually through 30-50 performances, the ACT Art Gallery, Arts Learning Programs, and community use groups, The ACT Arts Centre works, creates, learns, and connects on the traditional unceded territories of the Katzie First Nation and Kwantlen First Nation.

The ACT Arts Centre gratefully acknowledges the support of **Epic Homes** as the 2023/24 Season Title Sponsor, **Prospera Credit Union** as the 2023/24 Community Arts Programs Sponsor, the **Department of Canadian Heritage**, the **BC Arts Council**, the **Province of BC**, and the **City of Maple Ridge**, along with support from the many generous individual contributors to the centre's Annual Fund.

### Season Title Sponsor



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## MEDIA CONTACT

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