



SATURDAY, MARCH 1ST 2008 • SAMEDI LE 1^{ER} MARS 2008
TORONTO CENTRE FOR THE ARTS • CENTRE DES ARTS DE TORONTO

- Presented by BMO Nesbitt Burns -

VISIONARY PRODUCER DAVID FOSTER TO PERFORM ALONGSIDE PAUL ANKA AT THE CANADIAN SONGWRITERS HALL OF FAME GALA

New performers added to an already star-studded list of entertainers

Toronto, ON February 6, 2008 – Internationally renowned producer, songwriter and performer **David Foster** will accompany Canadian legend **Paul Anka** as he performs one of his classic hit songs at the CSHF 5th Annual Gala, taking place at the Toronto Centre for the Arts on March 1st, 2008. This recent addition to the talent line-up offers audiences a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to witness two celebrated performers side-by-side in an evening of musical tribute.

“The CSHF gala honours and celebrates the very best in Canadian songwriting by bringing audiences the opportunity to witness unique ‘for one night only’ performances by world class artists. This year is no different with the caliber of these two Canadian icons delivering a rare musical collaboration,” said Peter Steinmetz, CSHF Chairman and Co-Executive Producer.

Other sensational performers announced include **Serena Ryder**, whose deep, bluesy voice has garnered international acclaim and songstress **Jully Black**, whose fame rose to new heights with her hit rendition of Etta James *7 Day Fool*. Folk legends **Anna** and **Kate McGarrigle** will join previously announced performers **Martha** and **Rufus Wainwright** on-stage, along with Anna’s daughter **Lily Lanken** for *Heart Like a Wheel*, making the performance a true family affair. Quebec singer **Martine St. Clair** will honour Modern Era inductee Claude Dubois with a performance of his classic song *Artistes*.

Broadcast partner CBC Radio Two will air a special interview with Paul Anka on Sunday, March 2 at 7pm, followed by the broadcast of the Gala at 8pm. In addition, CBC Radio One will air a one-hour special at 2pm and 10pm on March 3. CBC Television will broadcast an one-hour special on Monday, March 3 at 7pm featuring salutes to Paul Anka and Oscar Peterson.

Tickets are available via ticketmaster.ca or 416-870-8000 and can be purchased from \$75.

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About CSHF Performers:

David Foster

A visionary producer, gifted arranger and prolific composer, David Foster brings a rare combination of talent, taste and dedication to his work. Over the past two decades, he has gone from achievement to achievement, including a phenomenal string of hit records and multi-platinum awards. Having just come on-board at Atlantic Records and Warner as Vice-President, as well as having his own Atlantic-distributed label - 143 Records; Foster is a man whose amazing career is just hitting its stride. Among his many achievements, Foster is a 14-time Grammy Award winner, with a remarkable 35 nominations to his credit.

Serena Ryder

Ryder's extraordinary major-label debut, *If Your Memory Serves You Well* features the native of Millbrook, Ontario covering vintage Canadian songs with remarkable authority —some of them written more than 70 years before she was born. From Shelton Brooks' "Some of These Days," recorded by the likes of Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday," to Percy Faith's "My Heart Cries for You," previously recorded by Ray Charles and Ben E. King, Ryder sings with the passion and conviction that make them her own. She delivers a stunning rendition of Leonard Cohen's "Sisters of Mercy" and a scorching version of "This Wheel's on Fire," which Bob Dylan co-wrote with The Band's Rick Danko. The album follows the success of Ryder's critically acclaimed independent album *Unlikely Emergency*.

Jully Black

Writing 10 out of 11 of the songs on her album *Revival*, Black has poured her heart and soul into her newest release. The lead single, "7 Day Fool" is a spirited Etta James cover, setting the tone of the album's feel-good vibe. Her compelling debut *This Is Me*, firmly established her as one of Canada's most revered music stars. She has toured with pop sensation The Black Eyed Peas, and continues to reach a wider audience with her regular spot reporting on CTV's *eTalk*.

Lily Lanken

Daughter of Anna McGarrigle and cousin of singers Martha and Rufus Wainwright, Lily Lanken regularly performs as a back-up vocalist for her cousin's band. She has also performed in *The McGarrigle Hour (1998)*, *La vache qui pleure (2003)*, and the *McGarrigle Christmas Hour (2005)*.

Martine St. Clair

Martine St. Clair is a Québécoise singer, who has released numerous albums in a career that has spanned over two decades. She rose to fame in 1981, when she was selected by Luc Plamondon to play the role of Crystal in the rock-opera *Starmania*. She is currently writing songs for her new album.

About the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame:

The Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame (CSHF) /Le Panthéon des Auteurs et Compositeurs Canadiens is a collaboration of the Canadian Music Publishers Association (CMPA) and the Songwriters Association of Canada (S.A.C.) with the assistance of the Société professionnelle des auteurs et des compositeurs du Québec (SPACQ). The CSHF's generous founding contributors are: the Canadian Music Publishers Association (CMPA), EMI Music Canada, the Foundation Assisting Canadian Talent on Recordings (FACTOR), SOCAN, Sony BMG Music Canada, Universal Music Canada, and Warner Music Canada. The CSHF acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Music Fund for this project.

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