MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release

TD Incubator Creatives Combine Spectrum of Art Forms for an Energizing Evening of Live Performance with Arts Commons Presents

May 6, 2025 - CALGARY – In the final presentation of the 2024-25 season of TD Amplify, *Origins: Freedom* is a joyous expression of creative collaboration. TD Amplify is Calgary's window into the groundbreaking work coming out of our city's underground performance scene. TD Incubator participants have their moment on stage through the TD Amplify series, collaborating with their fellow cohort members to create something completely new. Join us to discover the artistic collisions of *Origins: Freedom* on June 6, 2025, at 8:00 pm in the Engineered Air Theatre at Arts Commons.

Arts Commons Presents invites Calgarians to support the wellspring of local talent and discover something new at the TD Amplify series. In this fourth and final installment, the TD Incubator cohort artists will infuse the theme of "freedom" throughout their work on stage. *Origins: Freedom* showcases the creative talents of musician Robert Adam, multidisciplinary artist and musician Bella Ríos Romero, musician Duke Domino, and drag Queen Jackal Morose. The evening wraps up with Calgary's favourite underground dance party, SCRATCH with Hip-hop artist Luke Little Chief and DJ Friend. Called an "outstanding show" featuring a "diversity of artists who each bring a unique flavour to what they do" where audiences "cry, laugh, and have so much fun," the TD Amplify series brings Calgary's underground to the forefront, demonstrating the well-spring of talent that exists right here in our community.

Arts Commons Presents is thrilled to welcome returning director Jamie Dunsdon for *Origins: Freedom*. An acclaimed director, playwright, designer, and performer, Dunsdon will lend her extensive experience to help guide the expressive visions of these TD Incubator artists.

"Each event in the Origins series is so different because each group of artists brings something unique to the conversation, and then the way the artists collaborate with each other creates something completely new, even to them. It's kind of like the way different culinary traditions can be combined to make a new fusion cuisine, but with artists instead of food!" says Jamie Dunsdon, director of Origins: Freedom. "This particular group has a lot of music in it, but what's cool is that they are all very different artists, so the way they collaborate with each other is going to be wild and fun and most certainly a bit magical! I think it's going to be a perfect bookend to this season's TD Amplify series."

Prior to the artist showcase of TD Amplify, Arts Commons is hosting an Art Party, featuring an art market, drop in sticker-making workshop, pop-up performances, and DJ Subliminal Rabbit spinning tunes at Centre Court. The galleries throughout Arts Commons will be animated by the exhibiting artists, answering questions about their work and sharing their creative perspectives. The party starts at 6pm and wraps up just in time for SCRATCH. Learn more about this free pre-show event at artscommons.ca/artparty.

"The evening of June 6 at Arts Commons will be uplifting in all the ways I think people are craving right now." says Josh Dalledonne, Associate Director Creative. "This is a chance to come as you are with all your favourite people, to be inspired by the artwork on display and on the stages, to enjoy a beverage of your choice, and to dance the night away. When I consider what freedom means to me — it's the sensation of limitless ideas and being surrounded by my friends, my family, my community — my loved ones."

MEDIA RELEASE



The TD Incubator program is entering its fourth year of supporting Calgary's vibrant community of artists. In addition to performance opportunities through the TD Amplify series, TD Incubator offers artists professional development workshops, mentorship, and networking opportunities provided by Arts Commons. A key part of the program is the opportunity for these artists to share their art with the public.

Each season of TD Incubator is guided by the vision of an outstanding artistic Fellow. Past Fellows include award-winning R&B duo Sargeant x Comrade and former poet laureate Wakefield Brewster. This season, Arts Commons welcomes Migguel Anggelo – our first international Fellow. Miami and Brooklyn-based and Venezuelan-born, Migguel Anggelo is an interdisciplinary performing artist who expresses himself through costume, musical composition, movement, and theater work, evoking the "showmanship of Desi Arnaz and the performance art of Klaus Nomi" (Theater Scene). Arts Commons is thrilled to have such a seasoned and influential creative visionary inspiring this season's TD Incubator cohort.

What: Arts Commons Presents – TD Amplify Origins: Freedom

When: Friday, June 6 at 8 p.m.

Where: ——Engineered Air Theatre at Arts Commons

Tickets: 403-294-9494 or visit artscommons.ca/freedom

You can learn more at <u>artscommons.ca/amplify</u>. Arts Commons Presents wishes to express our sincere appreciation to Naming Partner TD Bank Group.

For media inquiries, high resolution images, or more information contact:

Alex Bonyun, Manager of Media and Community Relations 403-294-7429 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, and TD Amplify series. 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.