

MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Arts Commons Presents: TD Amplify Delves into Collaborative Collisions to Inspire Sparks of Creative Innovation with *Origins: Courage*

January 7, 2025 - CALGARY – The second presentation in the TD Amplify series this season, *Origins: Courage* digs into the question, “What happens when six artists of wildly diverse practices collide to create something completely new?” Making waves in Calgary by providing a place for creativity to flourish, the TD Incubator program is establishing itself as a foundational part of Calgary’s cultural community. 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 hottest scene-making artists with *Origins: Courage* on **January 31, 2025 at 8:00 pm** in the **Engineered Air Theatre at Arts Commons**.

Audiences looking to experience creative experimentation at its most interesting love the TD Amplify series. In this second installment, the upbeat comedy of clowning will intersect with the somber, reserved performance of a singer while the ethereal performance of a guzheng transports you to an introspective mindscape. You might find yourself drawn into an enthralling story or feed into the spontaneous creativity of a rapper. *Origins: Courage* features the creative talents of musician [New Saint](#), master storyteller [Mera Reyes](#), physical theatre and clown [Christopher Gamble](#), singer/songwriter [Emily Martinez](#), and [B. Beats](#) (consisting of mother/daughter duo Ying Zhou and Betty). Taking a collaborative approach to performance, the cast brings their talents together for a true ensemble performance. Called an “outstanding show” featuring a “seamless flow of artists” the TD Amplify series brings Calgary’s underground to the forefront, demonstrating the well-spring of talent that exists right here in our community.

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. This season, Arts Commons is thrilled to have Steven Conde as the TD Amplify series director, bringing his wealth of experience as a theatre director to the program. In Calgary, Steven is best known for recently forming the first Filipino Canadian theatre company in Alberta – FlipSide Theatre – opening more avenues for Filipino representation on Calgary stages.

“Our Origins: Courage artists are an incredible mix of disciplines, personalities, and cultures, all stepping out of their comfort zones into uncharted creative territory. Get ready for groundbreaking interdisciplinary collaborations you’ve never seen on Calgary stages,” says Steven Conde. “This performance is sure to take your breath away!”

Each season of TD Incubator is guided by the vision of an outstanding artistic Fellow, with past Fellows including award-winning R&B duo Sargeant x Comrade and former poet laureate Wakefield Brewster. In 2024-25, Arts Commons is thrilled to welcome 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.

MEDIA RELEASE



“These artists exemplify courage in what you see onstage and in how they show-up for each other and our audiences,” says Josh Dalledonne, Associate Director Creative. “In the rehearsal hall, these fabulous artists are demanding so much of one another – and all of it because of the commitment they have to bring out the courage in their audiences – I can’t wait for you to see this.”

TD Amplify returns for two more presentations for the 2024-25 season, ***Origins: Spirit on April 11, 2025*** and ***Origins: Freedom on June 6, 2025***.

What: Arts Commons Presents – TD Amplify Origins: Courage
When: Friday, January 31 at 8 p.m.
Where: Engineered Air Theatre at Arts Commons
Tickets: 403-294-9494 or visit artscommons.ca/amplify

You can learn more at artscommons.ca/amplify. 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, Communications Manager
403-294-7455 x7429 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.

-##-