

For Immediate Release

Spend an Evening with a Canadian Legend: An Actor's Perspective: In Conversation with Paul Gross, Hosted by Dave Kelly

September 5, 2024 CALGARY – Renowned actor Paul Gross is at Arts Commons this September for a uniquely intimate conversation hosted by the beloved, Dave Kelly. *An Actor's Perspective: In Conversation with Paul Gross, Hosted by Dave Kelly* is brought to you in collaboration by **Alberta Theatre Projects and Arts Commons Presents** on **Monday, September 23, 2024** in the **Martha Cohen Theatre**. Learn more about artscommons.ca/paulgross.

Actor, producer, playwright, and director Paul Gross originally rose to fame in the lead role of *Due South* as RCMP Constable Benton Fraser for which he won three Gemini Awards for acting and writing. From there, he went on to star in *Slings & Arrows* and *Republic of Doyle* and made his directorial debut with the cult comedy *Men with Brooms*. His directing career moved into the spotlight with *Passchendaele*, which won five Genie Awards including Best Picture. In 2015, he was awarded the Order of Canada for "his contributions to Canadian film and television, as an actor, writer and director." *An Actor's Perspective: In Conversation with Paul Gross, Hosted by Dave Kelly* takes place in advance of Gross' starring role in [The Seafarer](#) with Alberta Theatre Projects. Remarkably, Paul Gross' career began in our very own community with Theatre Calgary in their 1981-82 season with *Mrs. Warren's Profession* and *Farther West*.

"This will definitely be a full circle moment back to where I started," says Paul Gross. *"Because a very long time ago, I was born there in the Calgary General Hospital."*

During a 60-minute conversation, our phenomenal host, Dave Kelly, will help guide us through a retrospective of Gross' highly decorated career: the ups, the downs, and the unexpected moments that led him to become one of Canada's most recognizable celebrities. The conversation will be followed by a 20-minute Q&A where audience members will be encouraged to get in there with their questions.

"He is truly one of the greatest," says Stanley, VP of programming at Arts Commons. "And one of the kindest, most generous people you will ever meet," says Haysam Kadri, Artistic Director of ATP. "We are so lucky to have this chance to spend this time with him!"

A well-known personality in his own right, Dave Kelly is host of *Dave Kelly Live*, featuring guests including Jann Arden, George Canyon, Tom Jackson, and the late Ian Tyson. He also had the pleasure of moderating *A Conversation with Ellen DeGeneres* during the Canadian leg of her tour.

"One of my favourite things to do is find a compelling person, do a ridiculous amount of research on them, and then sit down and create a compelling, smart, funny, entertaining and hopefully inspiring evening," says Dave Kelly. *Between Paul Gross and me, we have won The Pierre Berton Award, Governor General's Performing Arts Award, the Order of Canada AND Second place in Grade 8 Triple Jump. I can't wait to interview another Alberta Celebrity."*

What: Alberta Theatre Projects and Arts Commons Presents – An Actor's Perspective: In Conversation with Paul Gross, Hosted by Dave Kelly
Where: Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons
Tickets: artscommons.ca/paulgross

MEDIA RELEASE



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About Alberta Theatre Projects:

Alberta Theatre Projects creates world-class contemporary theatre in Calgary from its home in the Martha Cohen Theatre. The company is a national leader in new play development. Programming is selected from the finest Canadian and international plays driven by the collision of diverging ideas, points of view, class, gender, or cultural perspectives. Alberta Theatre Projects' productions radically explore the organization's space, blurring the line between the audience and the artist through multiple seating configurations each season.

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.