



Advance Media Notice

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Media contact: Liz Lepper, Bottom Line Productions

P: (780) 988-8914 x 3 | E: liz@bottomlinepro.com

JazzFest Springs a Pink Martini Leak

Edmonton Jazz Festival Society toasts its summer festival line-up with **Pink Martini**. The Oregon-based "little orchestra" headlines the **Edmonton International Jazz Festival** with a concert at the **Winspear Centre** Tuesday, **June 24** at **7:30pm**. Tickets cost **\$47.50** (plus gst and applicable service charges) and are available at the **Winspear Centre Box Office**; call **(780) 428-1414** or visit www.winspearcentre.com.

Pink Martini was founded in 1994 by Thomas M. Lauderdale, a Harvard graduate and classically-trained pianist, to play political fundraisers for progressive causes such as civil rights, the environment, affordable housing and public broadcasting. In the years following, Pink Martini grew from four musicians to its current 12 and has gone on to perform its multilingual repertoire on concert stages and with symphony orchestras throughout Europe, Asia, Greece, Turkey, Lebanon, Canada and the United States. The band has appeared at the Cannes Film Festival; the grand opening of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Walt Disney Concert Hall; the opening of the New York Museum of Modern Art; the Kennedy Center; and alongside soul legend Al Green at the William Morris Agency's 100th birthday celebration.

Since the band members have studied different languages and music from around the world and everyone in the band contributes in the writing and arranging of songs, Pink Martini's repertoire is wildly diverse. The band takes its audiences from a samba parade in Rio de Janeiro, to a 1930s French music hall and then into a palazzo in Napoli. The band released its debut album, *Sympathique*, on its own label Heinz Records, named after Lauderdale's dog, in 1997; Pink Martini quickly became an international phenomenon, garnering the group nominations for Song of the Year and Best New Artist in France's Victoires de la Musique Awards. Seven long years later, Pink Martini released its highly-anticipated follow-up, *Hang on Little Tomato*, which climbed to Number One on Amazon.com's best-sellers list.

Stay tuned for further exciting details about the **Edmonton International Jazz Festival**, running **June 20th** to **29th**, 2008 at various venues. For more information, please visit www.edmontonjazz.com.