



PRAIRIE DEBUT

For Immediate Release

Warm up your cold winter evening! Prairie Debut presents Luis Mario Ochoa Cuban Quartet

On Wednesday, February 10, 2016, the amazing Luis Mario Ochoa Cuban Quartet will begin their tour through Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta under the auspices of Prairie Debut.

Be transported as Havana-born Luis Mario Ochoa (guitar and vocals) joins fellow musicians, Hilario Durán (piano), Louis Simão (bass), and Luis Orbegoso (percussion), “la crema de la crema of Canada’s Cuban musicians” as how WholeNote Magazine calls them. An impassioned and dynamic acoustic group, this quartet is renowned for its virtuosity and incredible musicianship, which dazzles the senses with a full range of Musica Cubana. From the sensual and romantic rumba, bolero and waltz to the lively and driving samba, salsa and cha cha it is a program that really cooks.

This tour has been generously supported by The Canada Council for the Arts, Manitoba Arts Council, Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Arts Touring Alliance of Alberta, Lloyd Carr-Harris Foundation, RBC Foundation Emerging Artists Project and Thomas Sill Foundation.

Prairie Debut 19th Season

Prairie Debut is a Canadian classical and world music touring network that focuses on bringing the highest artistic standard of classical and world music artists to communities of all sizes throughout Western Canada. Throughout its 19 years, Prairie Debut has cultivated some of Canada’s best musicians by providing performance opportunities, exposure and experience and connecting them with thousands of people across the Prairies. An organization with charitable status, Prairie Debut is based in Manitoba and incorporated in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

One of the world’s most exciting Cuban music ensembles, the **Luis Mario Ochoa Cuban Quartet** is renowned for virtuosity, incredible musicianship and a powerhouse of energy. The members of this acoustic group were nominated for the 2007 Canadian Latin Jazz Artist of the Year Award. Guitarist and lead vocalist Luis Mario Ochoa leads this ensemble noted by the press for their “fire, finesse and authenticity” (JazzTimes.com).

Performing regularly in Canada, the members have recently made appearances at the Jazz Festivals of Montreal, Halifax, Markham, St. John’s Vancouver, Victoria, Oshawa, the Toronto Beaches, Elora and Huntsville Festival of the Arts. They have also made appearances on Mount Allison University’s Performing Arts Series at the Sanderson Centre in Brantford ON and at the Charles Bailey Theatre in BC to name a few. International highlights include the Barbados Jazz Festival and Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Dizzy’s Club in New York among others. This season saw the group tour throughout BC and ON. In 2008, the ensemble released their CD, *Momentos Cubanos* featuring original and classic Latin American songs. The popular CD reached the # 2 spot on the world music charts at Earshot Canada!

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January 23/16

For more information regarding this project and/or ***Prairie Debut***, please contact:

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Luis Mario Ochoa Cuban Quartet

Performance Schedule

Brandon MB

Wednesday, February 10/16
Brandon University School of Music, Pro Series
Lorne Watson Recital Hall, QEII Building

Camrose AB

Friday, February 12/16
Camrose Performing Arts Centre Management Council
Cargill Theatre, Jeanne & Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre

Regina SK

Sunday, February 14/16
Regina Musical Club and New Dance Horizons Co-presentation
Mackenzie Gallery

Swift Current SK

Monday, February 15/16
Swift Current Allied Arts Council
Living Sky Casino, Sky Centre

Rosthern SK

Wednesday, February 17/16
Station Arts Centre
Station Arts Centre Theatre

High River AB

Friday, February 19/16
High River Gift of Music Society
High River United Church

Lacombe AB

Sunday, February 21/16
Burman University
Burman Administration Auditorium

As of Jan 23/16. Performance dates and venues are subject to change. Full length concerts, schools shows, workshops & master classes may be scheduled in addition to the concerts listed.