

Media Contact: **Beth Brooks**
Director of Communications & Marketing
Teatro ZinZanni - Seattle
Tel: 206.281-7788 ext 240
Cell: 206.250-2807
bethbrooks@onereel.org

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Mirror Tent Music & Stone Gossard

present

The HankKhoir

**Featuring Vince Mira, Shawn Smith, Pete Droge,
and more**

Wednesday, September 16th at Teatro ZinZanni's Spiegeltent

Tickets go on sale Tuesday, August 18th at Noon

SEATTLE – Mirror Tent Music, a new concert series produced by Teatro ZinZanni and musician Stone Gossard, will present The HankKhoir on Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. for a special evening of music alongside cirque performance, comedy and dance at Teatro ZinZanni's spiegeltent, 222 Mercer Street.

Stone Gossard of Pearl Jam has assembled a notable line up of Northwest singers and musicians for a special night of music as The HankKhoir. The HankKhoir features Vince Mira, Shawn Smith, Pete Droge, Barb Ireland, Dejha Colantuono, Elaine Summers, Lonnie Marshall, Scribes and Stone Gossard with musical arrangements by Teatro Zinzanni's own Hans Teuber plus Seattle instrumental giants, including Keith Lowe, Branden Harper, BeanOne, D'Vonne Lewis, Jeff Fielder, Regan Hagar, Skerik and Steve Moore. Comedy and cirque performances by Teatro ZinZanni's own Peter Pitofsky and Vertical Tango will be woven into the two-hour evening and round out the Mirror Tent Music experience.

In addition to covers inspired by the likes of the legendary Hank Williams and others, HankKhoir artists will also perform a selection of his or her own original tracks. Rounding out the evening's playlist will be a couple of rare tracks from Brad, one of Gossard's side projects, including "Buttercup" and "Day Brings."

"Over the past several years, I've either been playing with or wanting to play with this wonderful group of talented singers and musicians," said Gossard. "All of us share a deep reverence for the music of Hank Williams, and many of us have some new original work we're ready to perform. Teatro ZinZanni's spiegel tent is a great intimate setting for exploring these new musical landscapes."

"When Hans [Teuber] and Stone approached us about this project, we saw immediately an opportunity to bring new audiences into our fabulous venue," says Associate Artistic Director Reenie Duff. "Our hope is that this will be the first in a long series of music and performance collaborations."

Doors for this all ages show open at 6:30 p.m. Full bar service will be offered and food menu will be available for purchase.

Tickets are \$40 and go on sale on Tuesday, August 18 at noon. Tickets can be purchased online at mirrortentmusic.org, by calling (206) 802-0015 or in person at the Teatro ZinZanni box office (Open noon to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and Noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Closed Mondays). Purchasing tickets online is the best way to avoid waiting on the phone. There are no additional fees for online purchase.

Biographical Information:

Stone Gossard lives with his wife and daughter in Seattle where he works and remains active in various philanthropic and artistic endeavors. A founding member of the internationally acclaimed band Pearl Jam, Stone Gossard has been creating and performing music for well over 25 years. Highlights of Gossard's music career include

Green River (1984-1987), Mother Love Bone (1987 – 1990), Pearl Jam (1991- current), Brad (1992 – current) as well as various solo projects including his solo album, *Bayleaf*, released in 2001. A committed environmentalist, Gossard has quietly worked to use his influence to effect change locally and internationally through direct involvement in many environmental and socially conscious issues. A brief snapshot of Stone Gossard's philanthropy and activism includes Wild Salmon Center, Conservation International, Carbon Portfolio Strategy (part of Pearl Jam's ongoing efforts to advance clean renewable energy and carbon mitigation, Cascade Land Conservancy, New Apollo Energy Project, Honor the Earth, the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Vote or Change Tour Alternative Energy Projects, Arts Corps, Doctors without Borders, Northwest School, Green Empowerment, Seattle Alliance for Education, Youthcare, Punkvoter, Choice USA, Future of Music Coalition, CARE, Red Feather Development Group, Partners in Health, People for Puget Sound and Northwest Harvest.

Vince Mira is a young singer/songwriter from Seattle who specializes in country and rock and roll music. His deep bass-baritone voice has drawn comparisons to Johnny Cash and his repertoire includes several Johnny Cash and Hank Williams songs, as well as his own original work. Born in Los Angeles, California, and raised in San Antonio, Texas, Vince moved to Seattle and began his career playing Spanish songs in Seattle's Pike Place Market. It was there that producer Chris Snell discovered him. His similarity to Johnny Cash also caught the ear of Cash's son, John Carter Cash, and led to John producing Mira's first record. In late 2008, he started assisting Stone Gossard with a Hank Williams tribute CD, as well as touring with Stone Gossard as part of Timberland's EarthKeeper project.

Shawn Smith is a Seattle-based songwriter, vocalist and musician in several bands (Brad, Satchel, Pigeonhed) and also as a solo artist. In 2005, Smith unveiled a musical project called The Diamond Hand involving many musicians. He also has worked with Thaddeus Turner (formerly of Maktub and many other projects including Brad) under the name Forever Breakers. Shawn's newest band is now called All Hail the Crown, formerly

called From the North which he formed with core members of Malfunkshun (Regan Hagar, Kevin Wood, Cory Kane) and the lyrics left by the late Andrew Wood.

From the time that he signed with Rick Rubin's American Recordings in 1993, **Pete Droge** has enjoyed a successful, multi-faceted career as a recording artist, songwriter, producer, and composer. Beginning with his breakout hit “If You Don't Love Me (I'll Kill Myself),” which was featured in the blockbuster *Dumb and Dumber*, Pete Droge has gone on to compose and license original music for television and film, including national ad campaigns for Toyota and T-Mobile, and the ABC smash *Grey's Anatomy*. Academy Award winner Cameron Crowe personally asked Pete Droge to pen an original song for his film *Almost Famous*. Droge co-wrote (with Ex-Eurythmic Dave Stewart) and performed the Main Title theme for the Miramax film, *Beautiful Girls*. He has composed original scores for the feature films *Tattoo*, *A Love Story* and *Catching Out* as well as shorts for up-and-coming filmmakers John Jeffcoat and Justin Mitchell. In addition to composing and licensing music, Pete Droge has led a successful career as a recording artist, having released five full-length albums under his own moniker. Over the years, Droge has joined forces with a number of artists, both as a producer and co-writer, including fruitful collaborations with long-time friend Stone Gossard, of Pearl Jam. In 2003, Droge teamed up with Mathew Sweet and Shawn Mullins to form their side-project harmony band, *The Thorns*, releasing a rootsy, self-titled album on Columbia. In addition, Droge co-wrote the single, “Beautiful Wreck,” from Shawn Mullins' 2006 release, *9th Ward Pickin' Parlor*, which garnered a #1 AAA radio hit. His latest project is The Droge & Summers Blend, a collaboration with his long time partner, Elaine Summers.

The son of two professional musicians, **Hans Teuber** came to Seattle in 1988 and has established himself as one of the Northwest's top-call musicians. He has been a mainstay on the Northwest jazz scene for more than ten years working with Jeff Johnson, Clay Giberson, and other others who lean toward progressive and contemporary jazz. Over the years he has performed with many of the greats, from Dizzie Gillespie to Ani DiFranco.

A member of the Orchestra de Ville, Teatro ZinZanni's house band, Hans also teaches at Cornish College of the Arts.

Uncanny timing, a malleable face and a willingness to do anything for a laugh have all earned American clown **Peter Pitofsky** the title of "Human Cartoon." His years of street theater on the infamous Venice Beach walk, along with go-for-broke stand-up sets at L.A.'s Comedy Store, earned him opening slots with some of comedy's heavyweights, including Mel Brooks, Jay Leno, Penn & Teller and more. Peter has performed at Teatro ZinZanni since 2002.

Sam Payne (U.S.) and **Sandra Feusi** (Switzerland) have received the highest possible acclaim for their astonishing, sensual "Vertical Tango." They received a gold medal at the 2005 Festival Mondial de Cirque du Demain in Paris, a silver clown at the 2008 Festival International du Cirque de Monte Carlo, and the Bay Area's Isadora Duncan "Best Choreography" Award in 2005/06. The couple trained at the San Francisco Circus Center, and began performing with San Francisco's Pickle Family Circus in the mid nineties. They toured worldwide for five years with Cirque du Soleil's production *Saltimbanco*, spent a season with Switzerland's national circus: Circus Knie, and have performed for television and live events in Europe, the US and Japan. They are the exceptionally proud parents of a new baby girl, Luca Selina, and are currently appearing in *Bottega ZinZanni* at Teatro ZinZanni.

A three-hour whirlwind of cirque, comedy and cabaret served with a five-course gourmet feast, **Teatro ZinZanni** is an independent, non-profit arts organization, created by One Reel. One Reel is one of the Northwest's oldest, largest and most unusual non-profit arts organizations. From humble beginnings as a traveling theatrical troupe in the early 1970s, the organization has evolved into a diverse, innovative and dynamic arts group that strives to be a cultural driver for the region. One Reel's constantly evolving program of arts and cultural events, performances and activities span the widest spectrum of disciplines, genres and perspectives, from punk rock to spoken word, Shakespeare to

hip hop. From signature festivals and music events like Bumbershoot, Seattle's Arts and Music Festival and the Summer Nights at the Pier concert series, to the zany theatrical pastiche of Teatro ZinZanni, the organization has created over 500 different projects that celebrate live performance, and presented its work to audiences that now number over 8 million. A registered and qualified as a 501(c) 3 tax-exempt public charity, Teatro ZinZanni is dedicated to the communities it serves through performances, education and outreach. For more information, visit zinzanni.org.

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