

TD Jazz Concerts

Robi Botos and Friends

Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 8:00pm

This is the 94^{1st} concert in Koerner Hall

Tim Ries, saxophone

Randy Brecker, trumpet

Robi Botos, piano

Mike Downes, bass

Larnell Lewis, drums

Robi Botos

Multiple Juno Award winner, Robi Botos, has been hailed as one of the most diverse multi-instrumentalists of this generation. From the hard-bop style of Bill Evans and Herbie Hancock, to the swing of Oscar Peterson and the heartfelt melodic expression of Mulgrew Miller and Cedar Walton, he has managed to master the technique of his idols, all while showcasing his musical expressions in a voice that is purely his own. Says organist, trumpeter, and pianist Joey DeFrancesco: "Robi is one of the most swingin', soulful, funky, world class players I have ever heard, and he has a technique like you cannot believe. Definitely one of my very favorite players!!!"

Since moving to Canada, Botos has been given the chance to work with many of the greats in his industry, including Al Jarreau, Branford Marsalis, Christian McBride, Terri Lyne Carrington, Joey DeFrancesco, Steve Gadd, and Chaka Khan, and has participated in projects with Michel Legrand, Chick Corea, Bill Charlap, Benny Green, and Kenny Barron. Botos wasted no time laying down roots in Toronto: he has been the pianist of choice for Molly Johnson and has worked extensively with some of Canada's most celebrated players.

Botos is back with a brand new record that pays homage to his Hungarian upbringing, the early days of his career, and the music that he has dedicated his life to. The Juno Award-nominated *Old Soul* sees him not only venturing into a number of different genres (jazz, funk, soul, gospel, and more), but he also plays on a number of different instruments, including the harpejji. Botos's ability as a composer is once again highlighted on this record, with a majority of the tracks being his original material. *Old Soul* is available worldwide on Ropeadope Records.

Robi Botos made his Royal Conservatory debut on October 20, 2010, during the "Aspects of Oscar" concert series, and tonight marks his seventh appearance in Koerner Hall.