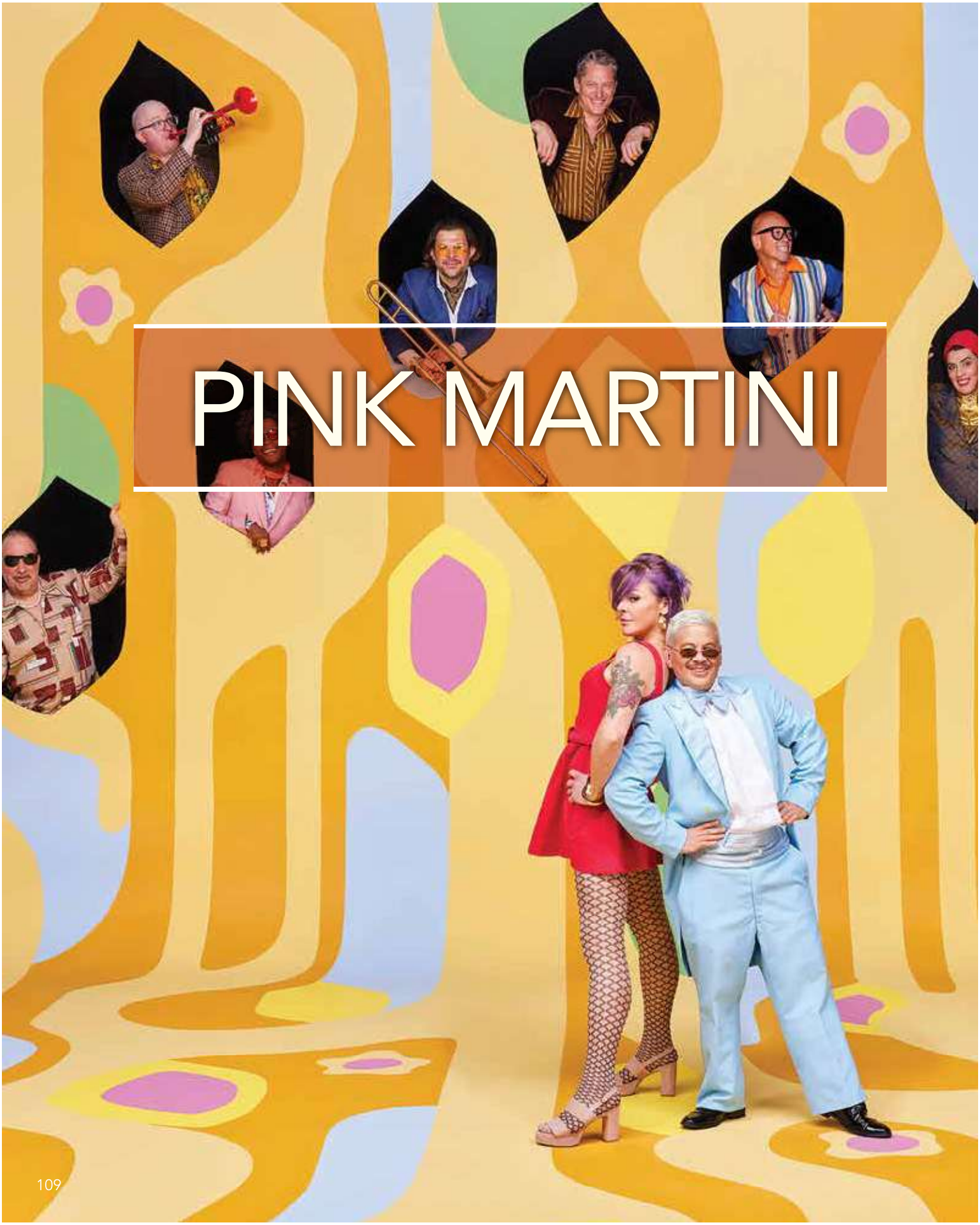
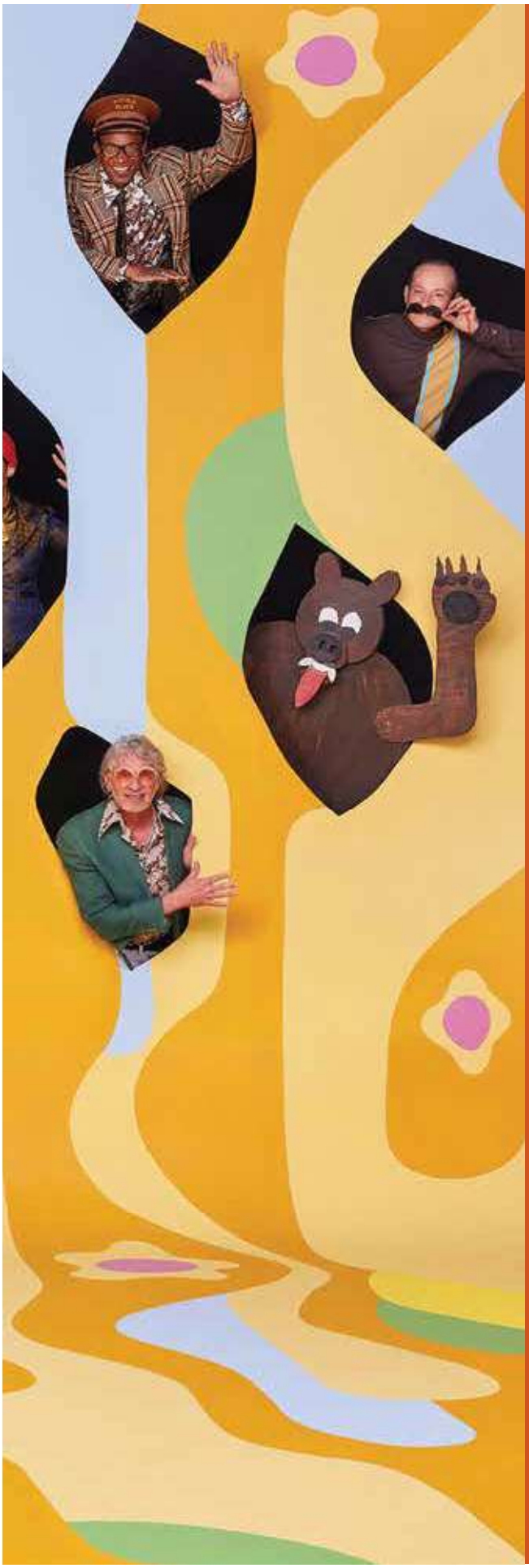

PINK MARTINI



Fri.
MAR. 5
at 7:30pm

Sat.
MAR. 6
at 7:30pm

Pikes Peak Center for the Performing Arts

Thomas Wilson, conductor
Pink Martini

Now in its 31st year, Pink Martini is an unstoppable engine of joy that continues to bring founder Thomas Lauderdale's mission of multi-cultural connection and inclusion to legendary concert stages on six continents. Presenting a mélange of catchy old-fashioned pop, global color, foot-tapping big band sound, and Hollywood glamour, Oregon's famous "little orchestra" performs music intended to appeal to everyone, regardless of age or background. The band features a dozen musicians sharing songs in over 25 languages, and collaborates with a wide variety of gifted singers in performance and across the band's 10 studio albums.

Season presented by:

Pikes Peak National Bank

Lodging provided by:

element

The H.A. & Mary K. Chapman Foundation

Kathleen and Russel Rowland

FREE for KIDS
Ages 7 to 17 with adult ticket



SINGER

Storm Large

Storm Large: musician, actor, playwright, author, awesome. She shot to national prominence in 2006 as a finalist on the CBS show Rock Star: Supernova, where despite having been eliminated in the week before the finale, Storm built a fan base that follows her around the world to this day. She was seen on the 2021 season of America's Got Talent.

Storm spent the 90s singing in clubs throughout San Francisco. Tired of the club scene, she moved to Portland to pursue a new career as a chef, but a last-minute cancellation in 2002 at the Portland club Dante's turned into a standing Wednesday night engagement for Storm and her new band, The Balls. It wasn't long before Storm had a cult-like following in Portland, and a renewed singing career that was soon to be launched onto the international stage.

In the 2018-19 season, Storm performed her one-woman autobiographical musical memoir Crazy Enough at La Jolla Music Society and Portland Center Stage, celebrating the show's ten-year anniversary. Recent engagements include debuts with the Philly Pops, members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and the Seattle Symphony, as well as return engagements with the Houston, Detroit, Toronto, and BBC Symphonies; the New York Pops; and the Louisville Orchestra, with whom she recorded the 2017 album All In. Storm continues to tour concert halls across the country with her band Le Bonheur and as a special guest on Michael Feinstein's Shaken & Stirred tour. Alongside Liza Minnelli and Joel Grey, Storm joined Michael Feinstein as a special guest with the Pasadena Pops.

Storm made her debut as guest vocalist with the band Pink Martini in April 2011, singing four sold-out concerts with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. She continues to perform with the band, touring nationally and internationally, and she is featured on their album Get Happy. Storm has also sung with Grammy winner k.d. lang, pianist Kirill Gerstein, punk rocker John Doe, singer/songwriter Rufus Wainwright, and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer George Clinton.

She debuted with the Oregon Symphony in 2010, and has returned for sold out performances each year thereafter. Storm made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2013, singing Weill's Seven Deadly Sins with the Detroit Symphony as part of the Spring for Music Festival. The NY Times called her "sensational," and the classical music world instantly had a new star.

In 2007, Storm starred in Portland Center Stage's production of Cabaret with Wade McCollum. The show was a smash hit, earning Large glowing reviews. Her next endeavor, the musical memoir Crazy Enough, played to packed houses in 2009 during its unprecedented 21-week sold out run in Portland. Storm went on to perform a cabaret version of the show to critical acclaim at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Adelaide Festival in Australia, and Joe's Pub in New York. Her memoir, Crazy Enough, was released by Simon and Schuster in 2012, named Oprah's Book of the Week, and awarded the 2013 Oregon Book Award for Creative Nonfiction.

Storm is featured in Rid of Me, a film by Portlander James Westby, starring Katie O'Grady and Theresa Russell. In 2010, she starred at the Mark Taper Forum with Katey Sagal and Michael McKean in Jerry Zak's production of Harps and Angels, a musical featuring the work of Randy Newman.

In the fall of 2014, Storm & Le Bonheur released a record designed to capture their sublime and subversive interpretations of the American Songbook. Entitled simply Le Bonheur and released on Pink Martini's Heinz Records, the recording is a collection of tortured and titillating love songs: beautiful, familiar, yet twisted … much like the lady herself.


Thomas Lauderdale

PIANO

Thomas Lauderdale

Raised on a plant nursery in rural Indiana, Pink Martini bandleader Thomas M. Lauderdale began piano lessons at age six with Patricia Garrison. When his family moved to Portland in 1982, he began studying with Sylvia Killman, who served as his coach and mentor until her passing in 2023. Thomas has appeared as a soloist with numerous orchestras and ensembles, including the Oregon Symphony, the Seattle Symphony, Portland Youth Philharmonic, Chamber Music Northwest and several collaborations with Oregon Ballet Theatre. In 2008, he played Gershwin's Piano Concerto in F with the Oregon Symphony under the direction of Christoph Campestrini.

Active in Oregon politics since a student at U.S. Grant High School (where he was student body president), Thomas served under Portland Mayor Bud Clark and Oregon governor Neil Goldschmidt. In 1991, he worked under Portland City Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury on the drafting and passage of the city's civil rights ordinance. He graduated with honors from Harvard with a degree in History and Literature in 1992. He spent most of his collegiate years, however, in cocktail dresses, taking on the role of "cruise director" … throwing waltzes with live orchestras and ice sculptures, disco masquerades with gigantic pineapples on wheels, midnight swimming parties, and operating a Tuesday night coffeehouse called Café Mardi.

Instead of running for political office, Lauderdale founded Pink Martini in 1994 to play political fundraisers for progressive causes such as civil rights, the environment, affordable housing, and public broadcasting. In addition to marking three decades as bandleader of Pink Martini, Lauderdale has also completed three long awaited collaborations with longtime friends in the last decade. In 2018 he completed *Love for Sale*, an album of jazz standards with singer/civil rights leader Kathleen Saadat, that began as a gift to a few friends and ended up being a Billboard Jazz charts-ranking album the month it was released. In 2019, Thomas Lauderdale and members of Pink Martini collaborated with the international singing sensation Meow Meow on *Hotel Amour*. Spring of 2023 saw the release of *Thomas Lauderdale Meets the Pilgrims*, his collaboration with Portland's own surf-rock indie icons, Satan's Pilgrims that was three decades in the making. Currently, he is collaborating with the iconic Iranian singer Googoosh, on a forthcoming album, and working on new tracks with Pink Martini.

On top of being bandleader and pianist for Pink Martini, Lauderdale currently serves on the boards of the Oregon Symphony, Pioneer Courthouse Square, and the Confluence Project with Maya Lin. He lives in Portland with his partner Hunter Noack.

CONDUCTOR

Thomas Wilson

See page 6 for biography



Thomas Wilson

Associate Conductor

Thomas Wilson is one of today's most versatile and dynamic musicians, celebrated as a conductor, composer, orchestrator, and trumpeter. His extensive catalog of works and arrangements has been performed worldwide, creating new opportunities for orchestras and artists alike. His orchestrations have been heard with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Gothenburg Symphony, and dozens of other ensembles.

As Associate Conductor of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Thomas leads nearly half the season across Pops, Classical, and educational concerts, and often joins the trumpet section when not on the podium. He also serves as Music Director of the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, transforming it into one of the nation's most vibrant chamber ensembles. Under his leadership, the orchestra has earned national recognition for bold, and diverse programming.

Education is at the heart of Thomas's work. He has conducted the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony, founded the Young Concert Artists Orchestra, and continues to mentor young musicians as a guest conductor, clinician, and faculty member at Colorado College and the Colorado Springs Conservatory.

Equally at home in the concert hall, theater, or opera house, Thomas has collaborated on countless projects in dance, film, and stage. Recent productions such as *Blind Injustice* and *Glory Denied* highlight his dedication to making the arts vital and relevant to contemporary audiences.

A summa cum laude graduate of the University of Northern Colorado, where he received the School of Music's highest honor, Thomas also holds a master's degree in Conducting from Colorado State University. He has studied with leading mentors including Lawrence Leighton Smith, Gustav Meier, and Michael Tilson Thomas, who described him as "someone to watch." Away from the podium, Thomas is a lifelong learner and adventurer. He is a voracious reader, a classic car enthusiast, and happiest exploring Colorado trails with his beloved dog, Ella.