



**GRANT PARK  
MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
IN MILLENNIUM PARK

Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus  
Carlos Kalmar, *Principal Conductor*  
Christopher Bell, *Chorus Director*

**Pink Martini**

Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at 6:30PM

Jay Pritzker Pavilion

GRANT PARK ORCHESTRA

Carlos Kalmar, *Conductor*

THOMAS M. LAUDERDALE	<i>piano</i>
STORM LARGE	<i>vocals</i>
GAVIN BONDY	<i>trumpet</i>
ROBERT TAYLOR	<i>trombone</i>
DAN FAEHNLE	<i>guitar</i>
PHIL BAKER	<i>upright bass</i>
NICHOLAS CROSA	<i>violin</i>
PANSY CHANG	<i>cello</i>
TIMOTHY NISHIMOTO	<i>vocals and percussion</i>
BRIAN LAVERN DAVIS	<i>congas, drums and percussion</i>
ANTHONY JONES	<i>drums and percussion</i>



In 1994 in his hometown of Portland, Oregon, Thomas Lauderdale was working in politics, thinking that one day he would run for mayor. Like other eager politicians-in-training, he went to every political fundraiser under the sun ... but was dismayed to find the music at these events underwhelming, lackluster, loud and un-neighborly. Drawing inspiration from music from all over

the world — crossing genres of classical, jazz and old-fashioned pop — and hoping to appeal to conservatives and liberals alike, he founded the “little orchestra” **PINK MARTINI** in 1994 to provide more beautiful and inclusive musical soundtracks for political fundraisers for progressive causes such as civil rights, affordable housing, the environment, libraries, public broadcasting, education and parks. After three years and a cast of different singers, Lauderdale called China Forbes, an old Harvard classmate who was living in New York City, and asked her to join Pink Martini. Singer Storm Large began performing with Pink Martini in March 2011.

The band began to write songs together, and their first song — *Sympathique*, with the chorus “*Je ne veux pas travailler*” (“*I don’t want to work*”) — became an overnight sensation in France, and was even nominated for Song of the Year at France’s Victoires de la Musique Awards. “All of us in Pink Martini have studied different languages as well as different styles of music from different parts of the world,” says Lauderdale. “So inevitably, our repertoire is wildly diverse. At one moment, you feel like you’re in the middle of a samba parade in Rio de Janeiro, and in the next moment, you’re in a French music hall of the 1930s or a palazzo in Napoli. It’s a bit like an urban musical travelogue. We’re very much an American band, but we spend a lot of time abroad ... and therefore have the incredible diplomatic opportunity to represent a broader, more inclusive America ... the America which remains the most heterogeneously populated country in the world ... composed of people of every country, every language, every religion.”

Pink Martini performs its multilingual repertoire on concert stages and with symphony orchestras around the world. They made their orchestral debut with the Oregon Symphony in 1998 under the direction of Norman Leyden. Since then, the band has gone on to play with more than 25 orchestras around the world and has appeared at the grand opening of the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s Frank Gehry-designed Walt Disney Concert Hall; two sold-out concerts at Carnegie Hall; the opening party of the remodeled Museum of Modern Art in New York City; and the Governor’s Ball at the 80th Annual Academy Awards in 2008. Pink Martini’s debut album, *Sympathique*, was released independently in 1997 on the band’s own Heinz Records label (named after Lauderdale’s dog), followed by *Hang On Little Tomato* in 2004, *Hey Eugene!* in 2007 and *Splendor in the Grass* in 2009. In 2011 the band released *A Retrospective*, a collection of the most beloved songs spanning their sixteen-year career. Pink Martini first appeared at the Grant Park Music Festival in 2010.