PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS LAUNCH NEW CONCERT SERIES
FRONT ROW CENTER SPRING 2012

ARTISTS INCLUDE THE RECENTLY REUNITED BEACH BOYS and BACHMAN & TURNER, TRAIN, MOBY, CHEAP TRICK and COLBIE CAIYAT
PREMIERE EPISODE FEATURES THE SECRET SISTERS WITH T-BONE BURNETT, ELVIS COSTELLO AND JAKOB DYLAN

(New York, NY) - Front Row Center, a new music television series that brings the live concert experience home, marks its inaugural season on public television stations across the country with concerts including two major pop music reunions beginning May, 2012 (check local listings). For the premiere season, Front Row Center boasts an incredibly diverse musical line-up that spans genres and generations. The Grammy-winning, multi-platinum selling, chart topping group represents a unique set of industry power players that includes The Beach Boys; Train; Phil Collins; The Secret Sisters featuring T-Bone Burnett, Elvis Costello and Jakob Dylan; Colbie Caillat; Moby; Cheap Trick; O.A.R.; Bachman & Turner; and Richard Marx.

Front Row Center comes from the producers of the ground-breaking and critically acclaimed PBS music series Soundstage, and was filmed in front of a live audience at venues including New York’s historic St. Ann’s Warehouse in Brooklyn and the Roseland Ballroom in Manhattan. Utilizing state-of-the-art production and hi-definition techniques, Front Row Center caters to the live music fan, with each of the ten episodes delivering top-notch performances from some of the biggest names in music. The series is a production of HD Ready and is presented by WLIW21 in association with WNET New York Public Media, and is distributed by American Public Television.

The series rolled out on public television stations across the country beginning April 2012. In the New York metro area, Front Row Center airs Fridays at 10 p.m. on THIRTEEN and Saturdays at 10 p.m. on WLIW21.

Don Maggi, executive producer of the series says, “Capturing the magic and power of a live concert, Front Row Center offers fans a high quality program and a unique experience that transports the viewer from their living room to the concert hall.”

“This show gives some of the best musicians in the business the ability to just do what they do best, and that’s play,” says Joe Thomas, Producer/Director of HD Ready. “Our job is to capture the moments that make these concerts special, so that everyone watching experiences the best that each musician has to offer.”
“Front Row Center is the perfect public television music series -- the top artists in their respective genres, captured with state-of-the-art technology, offering a one-of-a-kind experience for our viewers,” says John Servidio, General Manager, WLIW21. “We are so pleased to bring this virtual concert tour to viewers around the country.”

Premieres on public television stations as follows: (check local listings)

#101: T-Bone Burnett Presents: The Secret Sisters with Elvis Costello and Jakob Dylan: The Secret Sisters, singing siblings Laura and Lydia Rogers, showcase their beautiful harmonies and classic country/folk sound in a supper club atmosphere performing originals from their recent self-titled album as well as some of their favorite covers. They are joined by legendary guests T-Bone Burnett, Elvis Costello and Jakob Dylan. One hour.

#102: Colbie Caillat: Armed simply with her dusky vocals and acoustic guitar, this episode highlights her homespun music. In this performance, she sings her first hit single, “Bubbly,” as well as the love-stricken “Realize.” Caillat continues to impress with her sweet lyrics in “Fallin’ For You” and falls back in love when she performs “I Never Told You.” One hour.

#103: Phil Collins: Going Back - Live at the Roseland Ballroom
This very personal concert sees Phil Collins take his superb 2010 release Going Back into the live arena for the first time, faithfully recreating the soul and Motown sounds that he loved as a teenager. His band includes three of Motown’s original backing band The Funk Brothers: Bob Babbitt on bass and guitarists Eddie Willis and Ray Monette, as well as two stalwarts of Genesis live shows: Chester Thompson on drums and Darryl Stuermer on guitars. One hour.

#104: Train: The Grammy Award-winning California rock band celebrates their fifth album, Save Me, San Francisco with highlights including “Hey, Soul Sister,” “If It’s Love,” and “Marry Me,” as well as past hits “Drops of Jupiter” and “Calling All Angels.” One hour.

#105: Moby: This multi-talented and eclectic performer showcases his wide range as a musician and songwriter in this one-of-a-kind performance. With assistance from gospel belter Inyang Bassey and torch singer Kelli Scarr, Moby uses this hour of television to survey his nearly 20-year career. Highlights include “South Side,” “Porcelain,” “Natural Blues,” and “Why Does My Heart Feel So Bad.” One hour.

#106: Cheap Trick: Well known for their four decades of almost non-stop touring and new music, the group combines their famous power pop and melodic sounds as they rock out in this special concert. Seventeen studio albums under their belt make for so many great songs including favorites like “Surrender,” “Dream Police” and “I Want You to Want Me.” One hour.

#107 O.A.R.: From their roots as a high school band to selling out New York City’s Madison Square Garden for the first time in 2006, the band has reached new heights of popularity, releasing seven studio albums and four live albums. Known for their impressive live shows, O.A.R. showcases their hits like “Shattered (Turn the Car Around),” “Black Rock” and “War Song,” as well as select tracks from their new album King. One hour.

#108: Bachman & Turner: After many years of fan demand, Randy Bachman and Fred Turner -- the two giants of rock 'n' roll at the heart of legendary band Bachman-Turner Overdrive -- finally reunited for the first time in more than 20 years. The musicians are now the
full-throttle rock machine Bachman & Turner, and here they knock out hit after hit including “You Ain’t Seen Nothin’ Yet,” “Shakin’ all Over,” “Roll on Down the Highway” and “Takin’ Care of Business.” With guest appearance by Paul Schaffer. One hour.

**#109: Richard Marx: A Night Out with Friends:** For more than two decades, Richard Marx has made an indelible mark on the music community with more than 30 million records sold and 13 #1 singles. He remains a radio fixture as an artist and producer, working with some of the biggest names in the music business. In this concert, Marx takes us through his legendary career and brings along a few friends including Hugh Jackman, Matt Scannell and Sara Niemietz. One hour.

**#110: The Beach Boys: Doing it Again:** The legendary group reunites to celebrate their 50th anniversary (2012) with a look back at their career featuring never-before-seen archival concert footage, performances from their anniversary tour plus the recording of their new album *That’s Why God Made The Radio*. One hour.


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**About WNET**
New York’s WNET is America’s flagship public media outlet, bringing quality arts, education and public affairs programming to over 5 million viewers each week. The parent company of public television stations **THIRTEEN** and **WLIW21** and operator of **NJTV**, WNET produces and presents such acclaimed PBS series as *Nature*, *Great Performances*, *American Masters*, *Need to Know*, *Charlie Rose* and a range of documentaries, children’s programs, and local news and cultural offerings available on air and online. Pioneers in educational programming, WNET has created such groundbreaking series as *Get the Math*, *Oh Noah!* and *Cyberchase* and provides tools for educators that bring compelling content to life in the classroom and at home. WNET highlights the tri-state’s unique culture and diverse communities through **NYC-ARTS**, **Reel 13**, **NJ Today** and the new online newsmagazine **MetroFocus**.

**About APT**
American Public Television (APT) has been a leading distributor of high-quality, top-rated programming to America’s public television stations since 1961. In 2010, APT distributed nearly half of the top 100 highest-rated public television titles. Among its 300 new titles per year are prominent documentaries, news and current affairs programs, dramatic series, how-to programs, children’s series and classic movies, including *For Love of Liberty: The Story of America’s Black Patriots*, *A Ripple of Hope*, *Rick Steves’ Europe*, *Newsline*, *Globe Trekker*, *Simply Ming*, *America’s Test Kitchen From Cook’s Illustrated*, *Lidia’s Italy*, *P. Allen Smith’s Garden Home*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *Doc Martin*, *Rosemary & Thyme*, *The Rat Pack: Live and Swingin’*, *Johnny Mathis: Wonderful, Wonderful!* and *John Denver: The Wildlife Concert*. APT also licenses programs internationally through its APT Worldwide service. In 2006, APT
launched Create® – the TV channel featuring the best of public television’s lifestyle programming. APT is also a partner in the WORLD™ channel expansion project.

Contacts:

Program screeners available on request.

For Front Row Center:
Paul Freundlich (PFA Media)          Maria C. Malta (PFA Media)
212-334-6116                          212-334-6116
paulf@pfamedia.net                      mmalta@pfamedia.net

For WLIW21:
Susan Hellman (Hellman Communications for WLIW21)
631-421-1141
susan@hellmancommunications.com

For American Public Television:
Jamie Haines
617-338-4455 ext. 129
Jamie_Haines@APTonline.org