



MEDIA RELEASE

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**MELISSA ETHERIDGE, SERENA RYDER, JOHNNY REID, KARKWA AND THE
ROYAL WINNIPEG BALLET TO PERFORM AT THE
31st ANNUAL GENIE AWARDS, MARCH 10 AT 8 P.M. (8:30 NT) ON CBC-TV**

February 23, 2011 – Broadcast live on Thursday, March 10, at 8 p.m. (8:30 NT) on CBC, the **31st ANNUAL GENIE AWARDS** will bring together the top stars from film, television and music to applaud the past 31 years of Canadian movies. Confirmed today by CBC Television and the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television, the Awards will feature exclusive musical performances by Melissa Etheridge, Serena Ryder and Johnny Reid, as well as a special performance by Karkwa and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. These talented artists join host William Shatner and the ‘voice of the show’, Rachele Lefevre, to celebrate the year’s biggest achievements in Canadian movies. Additional celebrity presenters will be announced in the coming weeks

The star-studded Awards will kick-off with a highly-anticipated musical performance by Grammy® and Academy Award®-winner Melissa Etheridge and three time JUNO Award-winner Serena Ryder. Exclusive to the **31st ANNUAL GENIE AWARDS**, the talented duo will take the stage for the first time together on television to perform their new duet, "Broken Heart Sun". One of the country’s most successful recording artists of the past decade, singer-songwriter Johnny Reid, will perform his chart-topping new single, “Let's Go Higher”. Additionally, the **31st ANNUAL GENIE AWARDS**, will feature a special performance by Karkwa and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, who will join together for the first time for a tribute to *Barney’s Version*, the year’s most nominated movie. Montreal rock band, Karkwa, was the recipient of the coveted 2010 Polaris Music Prize for Best Canadian Album.

"I'm honoured to have recorded the duet 'Broken Heart Sun' with Melissa Etheridge and touring across Canada with her right now is an extraordinary experience," says Serena Ryder. "Her voice, talent, strength and career are a great inspiration to me. I'm humbled and excited to share the stage with her when we perform our duet for the first time on network television at the **31st ANNUAL GENIE AWARDS**."

Launched by the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television in 1980, the Genie Awards are an annual celebration that honours Canada’s film industry. Genie Awards for outstanding film achievements of 2010 will be presented on Thursday, March 10, 2011 at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa and will be televised live by CBC.

Requests for media accreditation will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. ET on Thursday, February 24, 2011. Please visit genieawards.ca/media to download an application form.

For a complete list of nominations, please visit www.genieawards.ca.

For photography, visit <https://mediacentre.cbc.ca/>.

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About CBC/Radio-Canada

CBC/Radio-Canada is Canada's national public broadcaster and one of its largest cultural institutions. The Corporation is a leader in reaching Canadians on new platforms and delivers a comprehensive range of radio, television, Internet, and satellite-based services. Deeply rooted in the regions, CBC/Radio-Canada is the only domestic broadcaster to offer diverse regional and cultural perspectives in English, French and eight Aboriginal languages. For more information, visit www.cbc.ca.

About the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television:

Established in 1979, the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television is a national, non-profit, professional association dedicated to the promotion, recognition, and celebration of exceptional achievements in Canadian film and television. Unifying professionals across Canada, the ACCT is a vital and integral force, representing all areas of the film and television industries.

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