

## COMPOSER LARNELL LEWIS EARNS SECOND JUNO NOMINATION FOR JAZZ ALBUM OF THE YEAR (SOLO)

Lewis's album, *Slice of Life*, celebrates fatherhood and the influence of his Caribbean heritage.

**TORONTO, March 12, 2025** - Larnell Lewis is thrilled to receive his second JUNO award nomination, marking a significant milestone in his career.

"*Slice of Life* is a snapshot of my life right now," says Lewis, "This album shares my life not just as a musician, but also as a composer. The introspective journey of *Slice of Life* is a lot deeper in terms of meaning and life experience. Typically, I do a lot of soloing and intense drumming. On *Slice of Life* I wanted to highlight the full musicality of these songs. In fact, the drums were probably the last thing I thought about."

Larnell shares how becoming a father eight years ago changed his music-making approach. One track on the album, "Hide and Seek," includes the voice of his daughter, Kaya, whom he shares with steel pannist Joy Lapps, who is also featured on the album. They also share a son, Khari and newborn daughter, Kianna.

*Slice of Life* fuses jazz, Afro-Caribbean and Brazilian influences into a distinctly Canadian sound. Larnell's dedication to his craft and ability to connect with an audience through his music have been pivotal in achieving this recognition. For Lewis, who is Toronto-born with parents hailing from St. Kitts and Nevis, receiving a second JUNO nomination from his peers is a testament to his hard work and a source of inspiration for him to continue pushing the boundaries of his musical journey.

"We battled against all odds to bring *Slice of Life* together. This year's JUNO Awards announcement felt like being a kid trying out for the basketball team and searching for my name on the board," says Lewis. "When I found my name on the list of nominees, it was an instant moment of celebration—both hands in the air!"

Larnell Lewis and his band will celebrate *Slice of Life* and his JUNO nomination at Lula Lounge on March 20, 2025.

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### **About Larnell Lewis**

In addition to his work as a leader and with Snarky Puppy, Larnell Lewis has performed and toured the globe with some of the best-known names in music, including Gregory Porter, Kurt Elling, Lalah Hathaway, Jules Buckley and the Metropole Orkest, Pat Metheny, Jacob Collier, Laila Biali, Etienne Charles and more. He is a dedicated music educator as Professor of Music at Humber College, Canada's most respected institution for post-secondary music education.

He also served as Musical Director at the Toronto International Film Festival premiere of the critically acclaimed documentary QUINCY (directed by Rashida Jones and Al Hicks), where he led performances by the likes of Chaka Khan, Mark Ronson and Yebba Smith. He connects to fans worldwide through his social media platforms, with a combined total of almost 500,000 followers.

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