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**KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS ANNOUNCES
CHRIS THILE AND EGDAR MEYER TO PERFORM IN THE
2014-2015 KAUFFMAN CENTER PRESENTS SERIES**

Edgar Meyer and Chris Thile will perform together in Muriel Kauffman Theatre on September 25

Kansas City, MO – Today, the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts announced that bassist Edgar Meyer and mandolinist Chris Thile, of Punch Brothers will team up to perform together for one night on Thursday September 25 in Muriel Kauffman Theatre. Ticket prices range from \$19 to \$59 and will go on sale Monday, June 30.

Composers Edgar Meyer and Chris Thile are two MacArthur Fellows that cross traditional boundaries in a diverse program of largely original music. The duo has collaborated on several critically acclaimed projects including the Grammy® winning Goat Rodeo Sessions, a 2008 recording of original compositions and, most recently, Chris Thile's 2013 solo recording, *Bach: Sonatas and Partitas, Vol. 1* produced by Meyer.

Tickets will be available through the Kauffman Center Box Office at (816) 994-7222 or online at www.kauffmancenter.org.

ABOUT CHRIS THILE

In a review of his quintet Punch Brothers' latest Nonesuch recording, *Who's Feeling Young Now?*, London's *Independent* called Chris Thile "the most remarkable mandolinist in the world." The MacArthur Foundation echoed that assessment when it named Thile one of its 23 MacArthur Fellows for 2012—a recipient of its prestigious "Genius Grant." In honoring Thile, the MacArthur Foundation noted that his "lyrical fusion of traditional bluegrass with elements from a range of other musical traditions is giving rise to a new genre of contemporary music."

Prior to recording the Punch Brothers's acclaimed new disc, Thile completed an album of tradition-upending interpretations of bluegrass classics with guitarist Michael Daves, *Sleep With One Eye Open*, which garnered a 2011 GRAMMY nomination for Best Bluegrass Album. He also recorded *The Goat Rodeo Sessions* with cellist Yo-Yo Ma, violinist Stuart Duncan, and Thile's mentor and frequent collaborator Edgar Meyer, which won the 2012 GRAMMY for Best Folk Album. After a lengthy 2012 Punch Brothers tour, Thile, always up for another challenge, immediately embarked on a series of duo dates with fellow virtuoso, the jazz pianist Brad Mehldau. Said *The Washington Post*, "Their complex work translated to plain-faced beauty: simple, direct and exquisite." A child prodigy, Thile first rose to fame as a member of GRAMMY Award-winning trio Nickel Creek, with whom he released three albums and sold two million records. As a soloist he has released five albums, as well as performing and recording extensively as a duo with Edgar Meyer and with fellow eminent mandolinist Mike Marshall. Other stellar musicians with whom Thile has collaborated include Béla Fleck and Hilary Hahn. Nonesuch Records released Thile's most recent recording, *Bach: Partitas and Sonatas, Vol.1*, produced by Meyer, on August 6, 2013.

ABOUT EDGAR MEYER

In demand as both a performer and a composer, Edgar Meyer has formed a role in the music world unlike any other. Hailed by *The New Yorker* as "...the most remarkable virtuoso in the relatively unchronicled history of his instrument", Mr. Meyer's unparalleled technique and musicianship in combination with his gift for composition have brought him to the fore, where he is appreciated by a vast, varied audience. His uniqueness in the field was recognized by a MacArthur Award in 2002. As a solo classical bassist, Mr. Meyer can be heard on a concerto album with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra conducted by Hugh Wolff featuring Bottesini's Gran Duo with Joshua Bell, Meyer's own Double Concerto for Bass and Cello with YoYo Ma, Bottesini's Bass Concerto No. 2, and Meyer's own Concerto in D for Bass. In 2011 Mr. Meyer joined cellist YoYo Ma, mandolinist Chris Thile, and fiddler Stuart Duncan for the Sony Masterworks recording *The Goat Rodeo Sessions* which was awarded the 2012 GRAMMY Award for Best Folk Album.

As a composer, Mr. Meyer has carved out a remarkable and unique niche in the musical world. And collaborations are a central part of his work. His longtime collaboration with fellow MacArthur Award recipient Chris Thile continues in 2014 with the release on Nonesuch Records a recording of all new original material by the two genre-bending artists, a follow up to their very successful 2008 CD/DVD on Nonesuch.

Mr. Meyer began studying bass at the age of five under the instruction of his father and continued further to study with Stuart Sankey. In 1994 he received the Avery Fisher Career Grant and in 2000 became the only bassist to receive the Avery Fisher Prize. Currently, he is Visiting Professor of Double Bass at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.

ABOUT THE KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts – a major not-for-profit center for music, opera, theater and dance designed by Moshe Safdie – opened in 2011. Serving as a cultural cornerstone for Kansas City and the region, the Kauffman Center delivers extraordinary and diverse performing arts experiences. Honored as one of the World's 15 Most Beautiful Concert Halls, the Kauffman Center attracts some of the world's most renowned performers and entertainers.

Through educational outreach programs and community enrichment, the Kauffman Center supports Kansas City as a cultural destination. More information on the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is available at kauffmancenter.org.

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts would like to thank our official building sponsors, Aristocrat Motors and Mercedes-Benz of Kansas City, and extend special thanks to Sprint for its generous support of our 2014–2015 season.

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