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Iconic Percussionist and Singer Sheila E. Headlines the Main Stage at A Taste of Colorado 2017

Chart-topping, Grammy Award-nominated singer/songwriter and world-class drummer, Sheila E. will perform on the Main Stage Friday of Labor Day weekend

DENVER (June 14, 2017) – “The Queen of Percussion,” Sheila E., brings her fusion of pop, R&B, funk, rock, Latin, and jazz influences to the Main Stage at the 34th annual [A Taste of Colorado](#) on Friday, Sept. 1 at 7:30 p.m. The concert is presented by Jammin’ 101.5 and helps to kick off the four-day, free-admission, food, music and entertainment festival taking place Labor Day weekend from Sept. 1 through Sept. 4 in Downtown Denver’s Civic Center Park.

A world-class drummer and percussionist, Sheila E. performed alongside Prince and sang on his “Purple Rain” album, as well as in “Erotic City,” the B-side to his number one 1984 single, “Let’s Go Crazy.” The late artist also helped her secure a record contract with Warner Bros., under which she released her debut album, “The Glamorous Life,” in 1984. Written by Prince, “The Glamorous Life,” hit the U.S. Top Ten and charted in both the American and British Top 40. After the release of her first solo album, Sheila E. had several more chart-topping singles, including, “Hold Me” and “A Love Bizarre.” She also was Prince’s drummer and musical director during the period of recording and touring for “Sign O’ The Times,” “Black Album,” and “Lovesexy.” After the passing of her longtime friend, Sheila E. released “Girl Meets Boy,” a song honoring Prince’s life and their relationship.

Over the years, Sheila E. has performed as a solo act, as well as worked and recorded with many other music legends, such as Ringo Starr, Marvin Gaye, Beyoncé, Lionel Richie, Diana Ross, Gloria Estefan, Pharrell Williams, and Jennifer Lopez. She is also featured on the movie soundtracks for “The Boss Baby,” “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice,” and “Kung Fu Panda 3.”

Sheila E.’s musical roots include her father, Pete Escovedo, a percussionist who led the Latin-jazz fusion band, Azteca. Additionally, her uncles are Santana member and Azteca founder, Coke Escovedo; solo recording artist Alejandro Escovedo; The Dragons’ front man, Mario Escovedo; and The Zeros’ vocalist/guitarist, Javier Escovedo. She often took to the stage with her father and before the age of 19, had performed and/or recorded with George Duke, Herbie Hancock, Billy Cobham, Con Funk Shun, and countless others.

Most recently, Sheila E. published her autobiography, “The Beat of My Own Drum,” while simultaneously recording her seventh album, “Icon,” in 2014. Sheila E.’s full biography can be found at www.ATasteofColorado.com.

The 34th Annual A Taste of Colorado - The Region's Largest Musical Festival - takes place Sept. 1-4 in Downtown Denver's Civic Center Park with hours 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday.

About A Taste of Colorado

A Taste of Colorado is a four-day, free admission festival produced by the Downtown Denver Partnership. The event takes place over Labor Day Weekend in Downtown Denver's Civic Center Park. In addition to local and worldly cuisine, six music stages and shopping, there will be local artisans featured in the Arts & Crafts Marketplace, culinary demonstrations, and interactive activities, rides and games for kids. A Taste of Colorado is the ultimate end-of-summer opportunity for residents and visitors to experience the *sounds, tastes, and sights* of Colorado's diverse cultural traditions and Western heritage. For more information on the FREE admission festival, visit www.ATasteofColorado.com and [A Taste of Colorado on Facebook](#), and follow [@ATasteofCO on Twitter](#), Instagram and Snapchat, as well as #ATasteofCO, or call 303-295-6330.

About the Downtown Denver Partnership

The Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc. partners with public, private and non-profit entities to implement high-impact strategies, outlined in the organization's long-term strategy the [2007 Downtown Area Plan](#), to support its vision for an economically healthy, growing and vital Downtown Denver. For more information, visit www.downtowndenver.com.

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