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For Immediate Release



# RICHARD ELLIOT & PAMELA WILLIAMS

## Join the Line-Up at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Norfolk Waterfront Jazz Festival

Hampton Roads' longest running outdoor Jazz Festival!

**Norfolk, Virginia (March 23, 2015)** –Norfolk Festevents announces National Recording Artist Richard Elliot will appear in concert on Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup> and Pamela Williams will perform on Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Norfolk Waterfront Jazz Festival for waterfront performances at Town Point Park, Downtown Norfolk, Virginia.

Saxophonist Richard Elliot has arrived at a very special anniversary for blowing audiences away with his soulfully robust playing. 2014 marked 30 years since the release of his debut solo album, Initial Approach (ITI – 1984), on which he stepped out showcasing his tenor sax, soprano sax, Lyricon and writing skills. What does a red-blooded Scottish sax man raised in Los Angeles – now with a wife and five children – do for a 30-year encore? Well, this one-time member of the classic soul band Tower of Power proves he's "not a young man" and drops the most overtly sensual, romantic and intimate album of his career in collaboration with contemporary jazz production/guitar giant Paul Brown. The title of this 17th solo project is Lip Service (the artist's first for Heads Up/Concord Music Group).

The 10-song Lip Service features seven all new original compositions with teasing titles such as "Sookie Sookie" and "All the Way," as well as three choice covers of soul and pop hits from the '80s ("Shining Star" by The Manhattans), the '90s ("Anytime" by Brian McKnight) and today ("When I Was Your Man" by Bruno Mars).

Dubbed "the Saxtress" after the title of her debut record, Pamela Williams is undoubtedly, one of the most popular performers on today's smooth jazz scene. However, we've long preferred to refer to Ms. Williams affectionately as the first lady of sax!! Although she established her solo career in LA, Williams' molded her musical identity during her youth. Her talents were nurtured by the rich musical heritage of Philadelphia. One of her earliest influences was the late great Grover Washington Jr. whose cutting-edge blend of styles first inspired Williams with an interest in jazz. Pamela tours the world electrifying audiences with her dynamic sound and captivating stage presence.

Pamela Williams has toured extensively with Patti LaBelle and Teena Marie. Williams has also worked with Babyface, Chante Moore, Sheila E.the Ohio Players and has appeared in a variety of videos by artists ranging from soul veteran Barry White ("Come On") to rapper/actress Queen Latifah ("Hard Times"). She's recently been on the same bill as a solo featured artist with John Legend, Toni Braxton, Eric Benet, George Benson, to name a few.

Pamela Williams is a multi-talented recording artist, composer, and producer who plays flute and piano in addition to the saxophone. She has written and produced songs for the late Teena Marie. She has also produced a gospel project for an upcoming vocalist. Williams made her solo debut in 1996 with *The Saxtress*, an album that immediately brought her name into the limelight. The project peaked within the Billboard Contemporary Jazz Album top 10 and remained on the chart for a full five months while also earning her the title of Best Female Contemporary Jazz Artist of the Year. On that release and on each of her subsequent projects, Williams has continued to exhibit a stylish blend of flavors, from Latin & Jazz, Funk, to R&B, hip-hop and house. Pamela Williams has 10 Cds to her credit. She presently tours around the world.

Other National Artists performing at Norfolk Waterfront Jazz Festival previously announced include:

**Musiq Soulchild, Saturday, July 18**

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Norfolk Waterfront Jazz Festival returns for two nights along the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront, Friday, July 17 and Saturday, July 18, 2015, 5pm-11pm each day. This popular festival features legendary sounds of top National Smooth Jazz and R&B Recording Artists. A variety of seating and ticket options are available including a VIP experience, reserved seating, designated tent areas and festival lawn seating. To purchase tickets, visit [festevents.org](http://festevents.org) or call 757.441.2345.

Norfolk Festevents, Ltd is a private not for profit organization dedicated to producing premier concerts, festivals, ship visits, special events and city celebrations for residents and guests of Hampton Roads. Norfolk Festevents is the official event marketing and production agency for the City of Norfolk, Virginia, America's vibrant, heritage port city. Since 1982, Norfolk Festevents has garnered international acclaim for its outstanding quality programming transforming Norfolk into one of the most fun and livable waterfront communities in the world. Festevents produces events across Norfolk but the primary venues are Town Point Park along the Elizabeth River on the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront and Ocean View Beach Park along the Chesapeake Bay in the Ocean View section of Norfolk, Virginia.

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