

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:**

Bridget Smith

v.845.583.2179

*Photos & Interviews may be available upon request*

[bsmith@bethelwoodscenter.org](mailto:bsmith@bethelwoodscenter.org)

**ELVIS COSTELLO & THE IMPOSTERS AND BLONDIE EMBARK ON CO-HEADLINING  
SUMMER TOUR, BEGINNING AT BETHEL WOODS ON SATURDAY, JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>**

*Tickets on-sale Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM*



**April 2, 2019 (BETHEL, NY) – Bethel Woods Center for the Arts**, the nonprofit cultural center located at the site of the 1969 Woodstock festival, today announced that **Elvis Costello & The Imposters and Blondie** will perform at the center on **July 20<sup>th</sup>** as the first stop on their coast-to-coast co-headlining tour.

Tickets go on-sale **Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM** at [www.BethelWoodsCenter.org](http://www.BethelWoodsCenter.org), [www.Ticketmaster.com](http://www.Ticketmaster.com), Ticketmaster outlets, or by phone at 1.800.745.3000.

Elvis Costello and Blondie shared spots near the top of the UK Singles Chart 40 years ago when Blondie's "Heart Of Glass" sat neck-and-neck alongside Elvis Costello & The Attractions' "Oliver's Army" in the company of The Bee Gees, Gloria Gaynor and ABBA. The same week, Blondie's seminal album *Parallel Lines* reached #1 on the Album Chart while Costello's *Armed Forces* landed at #3.

Elvis Costello & The Imposters' last tour in late 2018 found the combo reaching new live performance peaks. The band "came out swinging" (*Star Tribune*) in Minneapolis, were "unstoppable" in Anaheim (*OC Register*) and played an "epic and

euphoric" (*Variety*) show in LA that even at nearly three hours "[left] 'em wanting more." The Imposters are: Steve Nieve (keyboards), Davey Faragher (bass) and Pete Thomas (drums).

In 2017, Blondie hit the road in support of their most collaborative album yet, *Pollinator* (BMG). Their spectacular live shows drew acclaim for their "flair and precision" (*Rolling Stone*), while being called "formidable" (*LA Weekly*) and "artful, rocking" (*City Pages*). *Pollinator* was praised by the likes of *New York Times*, *Rolling Stone*, *NPR*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Pitchfork* and many more for its dynamic blend of Blondie's trailblazing sound and new influences from some of modern music's greatest innovators including Sia, Dev Hynes, Charli XCX, Dave Sitek, Joan Jett, and more. It features the euphoric disco-infused single "Fun," the propulsive 80s-esque anthem "Long Time," and the irreverent "Doom or Destiny."

Elvis Costello's wide-ranging recording career began in 1977 with the release of *My Aim Is True* in a catalogue that include such diverse highlights as *This Year's Model*, *Get Happy*, *Imperial Bedroom*, *King Of America*, *Blood & Chocolate*, *The Juliet Letters* with the Brodsky Quartet, *The River In Reverse* with Allen Toussaint and *Wise Up Ghost* with The Roots.

The 1998 release, *Painted From Memory* contained the first of more than thirty songs composed with Burt Bacharach, while the 2017 box-set re-issue of Paul McCartney's *Flowers In The Dirt* includes 15 demo duet recordings made by McCartney and Costello prior to the release of the albums *Spike* and *Flowers In The Dirt*, on which his co-written hit singles, "Veronica" and "My Brave Face," were first released.

Costello previously appeared alongside Deborah Harry with composer/poet Roy Nathanson and the Jazz Passengers both in concert and on the recordings "Fire At Keaton's Bar and Grill" and "Individually Twisted" in the '90s.

Elvis Costello & The Imposters' widely renowned *Look Now* was released by Concord Records in 2018 and of which *Variety* said, "It's so funny to be seeing him, after all this time, making a great cake of an album that doesn't really sound that much like any of the 30 before it." The catalogue will soon include the E.P., *Purse*, containing songwriting collaborations with Burt Bacharach and Paul McCartney and musical settings of lyrics by Johnny Cash and Bob Dylan.

Since the release of their self-titled debut album in 1976, Blondie has brought the worlds of rock, punk, disco and ska together and racked up four indelible Billboard Hot 100 #1 hits - "Heart of Glass," "Call Me," "The Tide Is High" and "Rapture" - as well as six #1s on the UK Singles Chart including "Maria," "Sunday Girl," and "Atomic." Debbie Harry - genre-spanning visionary, complex songstress, incandescent front woman and style icon - and the band's boundary-pushing pop have shaped the look and sound of many chart-topping female artists who have followed and have made Blondie widely recognized as one of the most influential bands of our time. Debbie will reflect on this and more in her highly anticipated memoir out later this year. Blondie's Chris Stein recently released a photo book of his own entitled *Point of View: Me, New York City, and The Punk Scene*, following his successful first photo book, *Negative: Me, Blondie, and the Advent of Punk*. Selected as one of Amazon's best photo books of 2018, *Point of View* showcases Chris' brilliance as a photographer and documentarian, chronicling his life among his punk and new-wave peers and the downtown New York City scene in the 1970s through his insider lens.

Elvis Costello, Pete Thomas and Steve Nieve are all members of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Elvis Costello is an Oscar-nominated and BAFTA and Grammy award-winning composer and member of the Songwriters Hall Of Fame. Costello has received an Honorary Doctorate of Music from both the University of Liverpool and the New England Conservatory. Costello's unconventional memoir, *Unfaithful Music and Disappearing Ink*, was published by Blue Rider/Penguin in 2015. The *New York Times* review began, "Songs can be many things," Elvis Costello writes in his new autobiography: "an education, a seduction, some solace in heartache, a valve for anger, a passport, your undoing, or even a lottery ticket. Mr. Costello's book, *Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink*, manages to be all these things, and a pint of Guinness and a bag of chips. It's streaked with some of the best writing - funny, strange, spiteful, anguished - we've ever had from an important musician." The book went on to spend several weeks on the *NY Times* Best Seller List.

Ever the bona fide international ambassadors of New York cool, Blondie - vocalist-songwriter Debbie Harry, guitarist and co-writer Chris Stein, powerhouse drummer Clem Burke, and long-time band members bassist Leigh Foxx, guitarist Tommy Kessler and keyboardist Matt Katz-Bohen - has become and still remains a true national treasure; one whose influence both shaped and continues to inform the worlds of music, fashion, art and pop culture. Blondie's chart-topping success, fearless spirit and rare longevity led to an induction into the Rock 'N' Roll Hall of Fame in 2006, a *NME* Godlike Genius Award in 2014, a Q Award for Outstanding Contribution to Music in 2016, and more than 50 million albums sold worldwide to date.

The pre-sale for Bethel Woods Members begins **Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM**. To learn about additional member benefits and pre-sale access, please visit <http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/supportthearts/membership-opportunities>.

A limited number of 2019 Bethel Woods Season Lawn Passes are still available, fully transferrable, and guarantees your place on the lawn for every Pavilion concert. To learn more visit <http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/performances-festivals/seasonlawnpass>.

**The Museum at Bethel Woods** offers \$8 admission when purchased with a concert ticket and \$10 admission when purchased day of with a valid concert ticket. Discounted admission is valid the day of a concert through noon the following day. Presented by Orange Bank and Trust, the 2019 Special Exhibit **We Are Golden: Reflections on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Woodstock Festival & Aspirations for a Peaceful Future**, examines the desires of the youth of 1969, places the festival in the context of the positive societal changes it inspired and asks today's youth what THEY desire of the world now. To learn more, please visit <http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/the-museum>.

The Kartrite Resort & Indoor Waterpark is the proud sponsor of **The Family Zone**. Available during most Pavilion performances, the limited capacity area of lawn seating is devoid of smoking, alcoholic beverages and standing. No additional ticket needed or surcharge added. To learn more, please visit <https://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/FamilyZone>

Bethel Woods' **Season of Song & Celebration** promises year-long programming and a uniquely memorable experience for those who journey to the historic site to celebrate the legacy of the greatest festival of all time.

For more information about Bethel Woods Center for the Arts, please visit [www.BethelWoodsCenter.org](http://www.BethelWoodsCenter.org) or call 1.866.781.2922.

###

#### DISCLAIMER

The Bethel Woods Center for the Arts' celebrations marking the 50th Anniversary of the greatest festival of all time, planned for the Summer of 2019, are not produced, sponsored by, or affiliated with Woodstock Ventures LC, the organizer of the 1969 Festival and its other reunion festivals, and are not WOODSTOCK® events.

#### About Bethel Woods Center for the Arts

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts inspires, educates, and empowers individuals through the arts and humanities by presenting a diverse selection of culturally-rich performances, popular artists, and community and educational programming. Located 90 miles from New York City at the site of the 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, NY, the lush 800-acre campus includes a Pavilion Stage amphitheater with seating for 15,000, an intimate 440-seat indoor Event Gallery, the award-winning Museum at Bethel Woods, and a Conservatory for arts education programming.

Through the in-depth study and exhibition of the social, political, and cultural events of the 1960s, as well as the preservation of the historic site of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair, Bethel Woods educates individuals about the issues and lessons of the decade while inspiring a new generation to contribute positively to the world around them. The not-for-profit organization relies on the generous support of individuals, corporations, and foundations to develop and sustain programs that improve the quality of life in the region and beyond.

For more information please visit [www.BethelWoodsCenter.org](http://www.BethelWoodsCenter.org).