



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **1200 CLUB HIGHLIGHTS ELECTRIFYING BLUES ARTIST IN JANUARY**

*Omaha's one-of-a-kind nightclub at the Holland features Popa Chubby Jan. 21*

**OMAHA, NEBRASKA – December 19, 2011** – [Omaha Performing Arts](#) presents electrifying blues singer, guitarist and songwriter [Popa Chubby](#) in the [1200 CLUB](#) sponsored by First National Bank. Called “a post-modern Muddy Waters” by *New York Times*, Popa Chubby will perform in the 1200 CLUB on Saturday, January 21 at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets for all performances in the 1200 CLUB are \$25 in advance and \$30 day of the show and are available online at [TicketOmaha.com](#), by calling 402.345.0606 or at the Ticket Omaha office inside the Holland Performing Arts Center, 13<sup>th</sup> & Douglas streets.

The 1200 CLUB transforms the Holland Performing Arts Center's most intimate venue, the Suzanne and Walter Scott Recital Hall, into a relaxed nightclub setting where patrons can experience performances by nationally and internationally known artists in jazz and blues. While enjoying the evening's entertainment, audience members may enjoy hors d'oeuvres and cocktails served right to their table.

At the forefront of modern blues-rock, Popa Chubby is one of the genre's most popular figures. And he's an imposing figure at that, weighing more than 300 pounds with a shaven head, tattooed arms, a goatee and a performing style he describes as “the Stooges meets Buddy Guy, Motörhead meets Muddy Waters, Jimi Hendrix meets Robert Johnson.” Popa Chubby has flipped the blues-rock label around, putting rock in front and the pedal to the metal with fat, scalding guitar sounds and stories plucked from true life.

Born Ted Horowitz, Popa Chubby was inspired by Chuck Berry and soul music growing up. He took up the drums but was discouraged from making noise. At age 14, he got his first guitar and never looked back. In the late '70s, Popa answered an ad for a guitarist in the *Village Voice* in New York City and became a mainstay of the early CBGB's punk scene. He played, recorded and toured with punk godfather Richard Hell, becoming an in-demand session player on the New York scene. With his razor sharp and aggressive guitar playing, vocals from the gut and top-notch skill as a songwriter, Popa Chubby takes blues to the cutting edge.

“The blues has always been the foundation of my playing style,” says Popa. “When I started playing blues in New York clubs, I understood that type of music should be dangerous, too. Danger is a real part of the blues and I keep it alive in my music.”

Following two initial albums on his own Laughing Bear label, Popa Chubby was signed to Sony's briefly revived O-Keh Records, the one-time label of Mamie Smith, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong and other influential blues and jazz artists. After signing to the Blind Pig label in 2000, Popa Chubby came into his own as a songwriter with 2002's *The Good, The Bad & the Chubby* with the sincere post-9/11 testimonial "Somebody Let the Devil Out." His 2011 album *Back to New York City* chronicles his desire to reconnect with his rock and blues roots while pushing both genres boldly into the future. "People look at me and expect a certain thing," Popa Chubby explains, "and don't realize that there's more behind the picture. They see a big, burly guy with tattoos, and they expect to get beat over the head. And you will get beat over the head, but you'll also get rocked to sleep, and there will be poetry in there too."

The balance of this season's 1200 CLUB at the Holland Performing Arts Center features:

- Friday, Feb. 17, 2012 Tia Fuller Quartet (Jazz)
- Friday, March 23, 2012 David Wax Museum (Mexi-Americana Folk and Indie Rock)
- Saturday, March 24, 2012 Sister Sparrow and The Dirty Birds (Soul)
- Friday, May 18, 2012 Kenny Barron Trio (Jazz)
- Saturday, May 19, 2012 Big Sam's Funky Nation (New Orleans Funk)

Preview a video clip of Popa Chubby at [TicketOmaha.com](http://TicketOmaha.com).

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### **About Omaha Performing Arts**

Omaha Performing Arts is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing world-class performances to the Omaha metropolitan area. Omaha Performing Arts' commitment to the arts extends into its own series, Omaha Performing Arts *Presents*, as well as education and community involvement programs that help ensure the arts have a far-reaching impact. In partnership with Broadway Across America, Omaha Performing Arts also brings the finest in touring Broadway productions to Omaha.

Core to its mission, Omaha Performing Arts manages two landmark venues, the Holland Performing Arts Center and the Orpheum Theater – the former, which includes the acoustically acclaimed Kiewit Concert Hall and Scott Recital Hall and the latter, which includes Slosburg Hall, a proscenium theater. Omaha Performing Arts also provides comprehensive ticketing services for cultural and performing arts within the region through Ticket Omaha ([www.TicketOmaha.com](http://www.TicketOmaha.com)).

Omaha Performing Arts' performances are supported in part by the Nebraska Arts Council, Nebraska Cultural Endowment, the Mid-America Arts Alliance, National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Omaha and the Douglas County Visitor Improvement Fund. For more information on Omaha Performing Arts visit [www.OmahaPerformingArts.org](http://www.OmahaPerformingArts.org).