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**ONLY A FEW TICKETS REMAIN FOR POI DOG PONDERING WITH SPECIAL GUEST MATTHEW SANTOS, APRIL 18 AT AURORA’S PARAMOUNT THEATRE**

   

From left: Frank Orrall (1&2); Poi Dog Pondering in concert (3); Matthew Santos (4&5). Click [here](http://www.paramountaurora.com/showspressphotos.php) for hi-res versions.

AURORA, IL, February 4, 2014 – Only a few tickets are still available for perennial favorite **Poi Dog Pondering**, returning one-night-only to the Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd. in downtown Aurora, Friday, April 18 at 8 p.m.

Poi Dog always brings some cool friends along, and joining them this year at one of the band’s favorite suburban music venues is Chicago alternative/indie-rock/soul music sensation **Matthew Santos**.

Experience Poi Dog Pondering’s “Large Band, Spring Time Concert” with special guest Matthew Santos. Frank Orrall and his band will have you grooving in the aisles. Their music will touch your soul. Tickets are only $35 and $45, but purchase early as only a few seats remain and Poi Dog sells out annually at the Paramount. For tickets and information, go to [**ParamountAurora.com**](http://www.paramountaurora.com/), call the Paramount box office, **(630) 896-6666**, or visit the box office Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and two hours prior to evening performances.

**Note: Paramount is holding an online auction for four front-row seats to Poi Dog Pondering and Matthew Santos, plus a meet-and-greet with Frank Orrall and members of the band. Proceeds from the auction are earmarked for Paramount’s *Dreams Do Come True* program, which gives children of all ages from lower income families the chance to see a show for free at the Paramount. The online auction starts at 10 a.m., Tuesday, February 11 and runs through Noon, Friday, February 14. The highest bidder by Noon, February 14 wins the tickets and meet-and-greet. Visit** [**ParamountAurora.com**](http://www.paramountaurora.com) **to bid and for complete auction details.**

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**More about Poi Dog Pondering**

**Poi Dog Pondering**, voted "Best Rock/Pop Act" in the *Chicago Reader's* 2009 Reader's Poll, started playing for change in front of the Woolworth’s building on Kalakaua Avenue in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1986. Over 25 years later, Frank Orrall and his band have traveled the world playing their cool fusion of folk, rock, electronica and funk while building legions of avid fans. From bohemian street buskers to impossible to market major label sacrificial lambs, PDP have ripened into staunchly independent musical voyagers. They have let every sound that excited them flow through their music and flood it with ever-changing colors – rock, soul, orchestral, acoustic and electronic textures, Americana, disco and international musics – all threaded along the way with lyrics that embrace the beauty and pain that life can bring.

Poi Dog Pondering’s first live performance was at the Honolulu Arts Academy. Filled with youthful imitative exuberance and inspiration from reading about Andy Warhol and the Velvet Underground's 'Exploding Plastic Inevitable' projected film and music happenings, PDPprojected films of lava eruptions, ocean and other natural environments over the band as they performed. The tradition of projected imagery along with PDP live performances developed and matured over the years and continues to this day. PDP relocated to Chicago in 1992 and formed their own label Platetectonic Music. In 1995, PDPreleased the critically acclaimed *Pomegranate*. For the next ten years, the band delved heavily into developing their orchestration skills, culminating in major collaborations with the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra and the Chicago Sinfonietta (with PDP's Susan Voelz, Paul Mertens, Max Crawford and Frank Orrall doing the arrangements). Band leader Frank Orrall's interest in electronic music garnered him respect from the Chicago House/Electronic music community for his solo project 8fatfat8 and lead him to become a member of Thievery Corporation as percussionist and vocalist.  In 2005, Poi Dog Pondering recorded a “straight up Rock and Soul record” complete with strings and horns: the album *7*. More recently, they released the seven-song E.P. *Audio Love Letter* in 2010; and in 2012, Orrall recorded and released his first solo album, *Never Trade These Days*. Last year, PDP celebrated the release of Live at Metro Chicago Dec 2-3 2011, a new 51-song, four-CD box set and a 32-song two-DVD retrospective concert film. For more information, visit [**platetectonicmusic.com**](http://www.platetectonicmusic.com).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMIHY-35sIE#t=77>
Watch life-long Poi fan Norm Smyth’s video of Poi Dog performing Jack Ass Ginger last spring at the Paramount.

**About Matthew Santos

Matthew Santos** has established himself as one of the most exceptional talents to emerge from the Chicago music scene in decades. With a voice consistently compared to that of the late Jeff Buckley and likened to a male version of Adele, he has been the subject of praise from such artists as Kimbra, Eddie Vedder, and John Legend. His highly acclaimed collaborations with Lupe Fiasco for which he received two Grammy nominations, have served to broaden international awareness of Santos whose own style is a unique, homegrown hybrid touching on alternative/indie-rock/soul and folk genres. The *Chicago Sun-Times* recognized Santos as an artist who is “organic and soulful and moody, full of interesting musical ideas and dripping with serious vocal talent.” Learn more at [**matthewsantos.com**](http://www.matthewsantos.com/)**.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5XCx2L4bSA&list=UUEUOo7xaSy8_35U_wTqkV6w&feature=c4-overview>
Enjoy a live performance of Matthew Santos’ Who Am I To You

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**About The Paramount Theatre**The Paramount Theatre is the center for performing arts, entertainment and arts education in Aurora, the second largest city in Illinois. Named “One of Chicago’s Top 10 Attended Theaters” by the League of Chicago Theaters, the 1,888-seat Paramount Theatre, located in the heart of downtown Aurora at 23 E. Galena Boulevard, is nationally renowned for the quality and caliber of its presentations, superb acoustics and historic, Art Deco beauty.

The Paramount Theatre opened on September 3, 1931. Designed by nationally renowned theater architects C.W. and George L. Rapp, the theater captures a unique Venetian setting portrayed in the art deco influence of the 1930s. The first air-conditioned building outside of Chicago, the Paramount offered the public a variety of entertainment, including "talking pictures," vaudeville, concerts and circus

performances for more than 40 years. Today, the Paramount produces its own, self-produced Broadway Musical series, presents an eclectic array of comedy, music, dance and family shows, and on most Mondays, screens a classic movie.

The Paramount Theatre is one of three live performance venues programmed and managed by the Aurora Civic Center Authority (ACCA). ACCA also oversees the Paramount’s “sister” stage, the intimate, 216-seat Copley Theatre located directly across the street from the Paramount at 8 E. Galena Blvd., as well as RiverEdge Park, downtown Aurora’s new summer outdoor concert venue.

The Paramount Theatre continues to expand its artistic and institutional boundaries under the guidance **Tim Rater**, President and CEO, Aurora Civic Center Authority; **Jim Corti**, Artistic Director, Paramount Theatre; a dedicated Board of Trustees and a devoted staff of live theater and music professionals.

The 2013-14 Paramount Theatre season is sponsored by ***The* *Daily Herald***. The 2013-14 Paramount Broadway Season is sponsored by **BMO Harris**. This season is partially supported by a grant from the **Illinois Arts Council**, a state agency. For more information, visit the Paramount Theatre online at [**ParamountAurora.com**](http://www.paramountaurora.com/).

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