SKATING

## Aloe Blacc to perform his new single at the ISU Skating Awards

Like the athletes in the Limelight of the ISU Skating Awards, Aloe Blacc inspires audiences around the world, but with a different type of performance. He is a singer, rapper, producer, songwriter and philanthropist. He has earned his global fame with hit songs such as "<u>I Need Dollar</u>" and for "<u>Wake Me Up</u>" and "<u>SOS</u>, for which he collaborated with the late Avicii. The audience of the ISU Skating Awards will have the honour of discovering his brand new single "My Way", that he will perform Live on the ISU Skating Awards on July 11, 2020, that will be Streamed on <u>ISU Skating Awards page</u> from 16:00 CEST.

Blacc was raised on salsa, merengue, and cumbia and fell in love with hip-hop. He started writing rap songs at the young age of nine. Later, his musical influence included artists such as Donny Hathaway, Marvin Gaye, Joni Mitchell, James Taylor, Kris Kristofferson and Cat Steven, which led him to produce music that can be described as a fusion of soul, folk, R&B and pop.

In 2006, he released his solo debut "Shine Through" and sophomore album "Good Things" in 2010. Boosted by the breakout success of "I Need a Dollar" (which was selected as the theme song to HBO's How To Make it In America), the album reached gold status in countries around the world. In 2014, in collaboration with groundbreaking producers like Pharrell Williams, "Lift Your Spirit" debuted at #4 on the Billboard 200 albums chart and earned a Grammy Award nomination for Best R&B Album.

Creating his upcoming album, "All Love Everything", that will be released on October 2, 2020, it was important for Blacc to focus on making music that would inspire a positive shift in mindset. "When things happening in the world seem so terrible and dark, it's so easy to get stuck in all the negative," he says. "But I try to do whatever I can to help people out of that. I want my music to be the light." Blacc will be bringing some of that light to celebrate Figure Skating and put athletes back at the center stage during the ISU Skating Awards.

The Figure Skating season was cut short because of the COVID-19 pandemic which led to the cancellation of the ISU Skating Awards show, due to take place on the final day of the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2020 in Montréal (CAN). However, in this tumultuous environment of uncertainty, it is more important now than ever to get together and honor the athletes, coaches and choreographers that have worked so hard.

Visit the <u>ISU Skating Awards page</u> to join Aloe Blacc as well as the hosts, Tanith and Charlie White, in the celebration and watch the Awards live.

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