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# **COSTCO** **Connection**®

THE MAGAZINE FOR COSTCO MEMBERS

## Taking chances

After personal setbacks,  
Celine Dion is busier  
than ever **20**

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019




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Elton John

Game of Thrones

 **HOLIDAY SEASON  
GIFT GUIDE INSIDE**

# Courage



*Courage. That's the name Celine Dion picked for her new album, her first in English since her husband-manager René Angélil died of cancer in 2016. "I think I went through a lot," she says, when asked why she chose the title for the album, the title track and the name of her world tour.*

by Mark Cardwell





ALIX MALKA

**T**he bestselling female recording artist of all time, Dion recently shared her thoughts about *Courage* and life as a hardworking widowed mom in an email Q&A with the *Connection*.

**Costco Connection:** Please tell me about *Courage*.

**Celine Dion:** I'm very excited. We've been working on it for almost two years and I've recorded something like 35 songs. I've been very fortunate to receive amazing songs from writers and producers, and there's a variety of styles. Of course, I'm singing some beautiful ballads that my fans have come to know me by ... but also some great edgy songs and uptempo tracks.

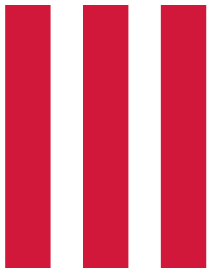
**CC:** Do you have any more albums in the works, maybe in French?

**CD:** I'm not working on any more albums at this time, but I definitely want to keep recording. I have a lot of ideas. And for sure, I want to record another album in French in the next couple of years, if possible.

**CC:** You have done thousands of shows, performed on the world's biggest stages and are idolized by millions of people around the world. What more do you hope to do?

**CD:** I'd love to do some acting. I'm passionate about dance. I don't know where this will take me, but I'm loving it. My mind doesn't stop, and I feel like I've still got lots to do!

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**CC:** Do you plan to retire at some point?

**CD:** Retire? What's that?! No, I'm definitely not thinking of that ... and I still love to sing, so I hope that I can still sing for a long, long time.

**CC:** Has anyone taken the place of René in your professional life?

**CD:** No one will ever take the place of René in my professional life. He left me with a great education about the music business, and that prepared me to make the career decisions I do now. I work closely with my team to make the right choices for my songs, my shows and other things in my career.

**CC:** Are there other artistic forms of expression you'd like to try?

**CD:** As mentioned, I would love to do some acting. We've been approached with a few opportunities already, and we're just taking our time to make the right decisions. I'm not in a hurry, but I'm definitely excited about the possibilities. "Ashes" was really fun. Working with Ryan Reynolds was great ... he's incredibly funny, and obviously incredibly talented. I was truly honoured that he asked me to record a song for *Deadpool 2*.

**CC:** How do you manage to stay in shape and keep your energy levels so high? It's been reported that you work out for two hours after your shows.

**CD:** It's true that I work out after my shows, and on many of my days off. I stretch, I do some ballet, a lot of improv dancing. I have a lot of creative energy to burn, so doing all of this is like therapy. I also try to eat healthy. I have a nutritionist who makes sure that I'm eating all the right foods to keep my body running smoothly.

**CC:** You're making a name for yourself in the fashion world. How do you feel about being considered a fashion maven?

**CD:** To me, fashion is fun and it's art. It's all about expressing yourself. I don't think of myself as a fashion figure or anything like that. I just love to express myself through fashion, and truly appreciate the talent of those designers who create amazing art through their work.



#### COSTCO CONNECTION

Celine Dion's *Courage* will be available in all warehouses 11/15 (Item #3020002).



ALIX NALKA



CDA PRODUCTIONS (LAS VEGAS) INC.



Top left: Dion announcing she will tour North America for the first time in more than a decade. Top right: Family time at Disneyland. Left: Dion performing during her 16-year Las Vegas residency at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace.

**CC:** What do you think it is about you and your music that touches people so profoundly?

**CD:** I've always been an open book with my fans, and I think they can relate to me because of this. When I've met fans in the past, they speak to me about their troubles, and how one of my songs helped them through tough times, or reminds them of someone they love or something like that. And I've been fortunate to receive so many great songs from writers and producers. I think all of this adds up to why people are touched so profoundly.

**CC:** How do you manage to stay grounded with all the fame, fortune and adulation that you enjoy?

**CD:** Growing up, my parents didn't really have any money and they raised 14 children. But we had love and affection, and this was our foundation. I realize how fortunate I am to be able to do what I love, and enjoy the success that I've had, and I always remain grounded because of my childhood days.

**CC:** As a globe-trotting, hardworking single mom, how do you manage your career and spending time with your kids?

**CD:** I try to balance my professional life with my family life as much as possible, and I'm

fortunate to have a lot of help. My sister and brother-in-law, who have been godparents to my children, have been an amazing support by helping out when I'm not there.

**CC:** What do you like to do with your sons, René-Charles (RC) and twins Eddy and Nelson?

**CD:** Whenever I get a chance to watch RC play hockey, I love to do that. He's passionate about hockey and golf and other sports, and I'm very proud of him. As for Nelson and Eddy, you never know what their next adventure is. One day they're wrestling champions, the next day they're professional dancers. They're always inventing new characters, and they make me laugh so much.

**CC:** Are there any potential musicians or singers among them?

**CD:** Maybe! RC is doing some writing and rapping, and he actually sounds really good. Not sure I understand all the lyrics he's singing, but that's his thing, and he enjoys it. Nelson and Eddy both love singing and dancing, so we'll see. I'm certainly not pushing them to do anything. Whatever makes them happy makes me happy! ■

Mark Cardwell is a freelance journalist and writer in the Quebec City region.