

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS &
CULTURAL CENTRE SOCIETY
9201 Corbould Street, Chilliwack BC V2P 4A6



Contact: Ann Goudswaard, Marketing Manager
T: 604.392.8000, ext.103
E: ann@chilliwackculturalcentre.ca
W: www.chilliwackculturalcentre.com

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High Resolution photo: [Benjamin Butterfield](#)

Photo Description: Tenore extraordinaire Benjamin Butterfield joins Sarah Hagen in the 3rd installment of the Rain Mountain Classical Music Series.

Photo Credit: N/A

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROMANTIC COLLABORATION WITH THE LUXURIOUS BENJAMIN BUTTERFIELD

CHILLIWACK, BC - A soothing morning of classical Canadian talent will come to Chilliwack on **February 14, 2014**, when one of British Columbia's most acclaimed and internationally prevalent tenors, **Benjamin Butterfield**, joins the innovative **Sarah Hagen** in the next installment of our Rain Mountain Classical Music Series. With Butterfield's lavishly resonant timbre accompanying the talents of dazzling rising star **Sarah Hagen**, this morning concert of classical splendor will be both an incredible spectacle to behold and the perfect way to begin a tranquil day of romance with your Valentine.

Young Canadian pianist **Sarah Hagen** has received critical acclaim for her imaginative vision and outstanding skill in assembling conceptually original performances that include

photography, dance and theatre. Described as “a rarity of musical excellence, technical ease and tonal purity”, Sarah’s belief that “music has the power to be a window into our souls regardless of age or knowledge”, has led her to collaborate with a broad range of classical vocalists and musicians, and her appearance alongside **Benjamin Butterfield** will be the third of her four performances at The Cultural Centre this season.

Benjamin’s effortless clarity and tonal abilities have led critics to describe him as a tenor who sings “... with taste, authority and agility”, and that brings “a vibrant, resonant timbre to his solos”. His extensive background in classical performance has led him to tour nationally and internationally, being featured in Symphony Halls from Seattle to New York’s Carnegie Hall. After singing alongside all major Orchestra and Opera Companies in Canada, at London’s Royal Albert Hall and across Europe, Benjamin’s reputation as one of Canada’s finest tenors precedes him. Alongside his busy touring schedule Benjamin still finds time to be counted among the faculty at the University of Victoria as Associate Professor and the Head of Voice Program in the University’s School of Music. This impressive resume showcases Benjamin’s extraordinary musicianship and breathtaking vocal abilities, and with a towering performance that has filled halls and awed audiences across the world coming to Chilliwack this February, his appearance alongside **Sarah Hagen** will be a marvelous spectacle you do not want to miss.

“It was simply ravishing. Butterfield’s absolutely gorgeous voice and total musicality suddenly had the capacity audience awed into silence”.

Hugh Fraser, Hamilton Spectator

Although Benjamin’s talents have not left him short of live operatic and orchestral appearances, his musical forays have led him to also become a prolific recording artist,

producing more than forty releases that can be heard regularly on CBC Radio. His recorded performances have also earned international recognition, with four of his major releases being nominated for Canadian Juno Awards, and his recording of Roussel's 'Psalm 80' winning him the Diapason Award from French *Classica* Magazine. Benjamin has made a huge impression in Europe, appearing alongside orchestras in France, Italy, Greece, the Netherlands and Switzerland, and recording with the foremost of Ukrainian composers in the Ukrainian Art Song Project.

Benjamin's compelling performance and "ease and passion of his delivery" have cemented his place as one of the most sought after classical performers in Canada today. The Rotary Hall Studio Theatre will be alive with romance when the flawless majesty of his voice fills the air alongside Sarah's tender piano pieces, so surrender yourself to the lavish serenity of **Sarah Hagen featuring Special Guest Benjamin Butterfield** on the morning of Valentine's Day, and carry their soulful splendor with you until sunset.

"The tenor Benjamin Butterfield was clarion-voiced and vibrant as the archangel Uriel"

Anthony Tommasini, New York Times

"Butterfield sang the narrative with the most honest, tender urgency, heralding a miracle with a true sense of awe. His arias were sweet-toned, long-lined and florid."

Lloyd Dykk, Vancouver Sun

Come and enjoy this breathtaking performance when **Benjamin Butterfield** and **Sarah Hagen** inspire the Cultural Centre with the flair and extravagance of the classics. Call the Centre Box Office at 604-391-SHOW(7469) or visit www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca

Sarah Hagen with Special Guest Benjamin Butterfield is generously sponsored by McLean's Funeral Services Ltd, Sardis Bakery, Chilliwack Progress, Department of Canadian Heritage, City of Chilliwack, British Columbia Arts Council, Province of British Columbia.

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Additional Information

http://imgartists.com/artist/benjamin_butterfield
Benjamin Butterfield's Artist Profile

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wm40gVDnbl&feature=share&list=PL9A05EF7C3E375EA7>

'Soon the Sun will Laugh' with the Ukrainian Art Song Project

For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

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Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Owned by the City of Chilliwack, the Cultural Centre houses two unique performance venues, an art gallery, music instruction studios, arts and crafts studios, meeting rooms, offices, and is home to the Chilliwack Academy of Music and the Chilliwack Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 150,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding 2,000,000. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City, and boasts The Chilliwack Academy of Music, The Chilliwack Visual Artists Association and The Chilliwack Players Guild as partners.

Chilliwack Cultural Centre highlights:

- 597 seat performance theatre
- 168 seat recital hall / rehearsal space / dance studio / meeting space
- Chilliwack Art gallery (22-foot high display area)

- 21 music instructional rooms
- Arts and crafts studios
- Storage and Archival Resource Room

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