

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.ca

October 7, 2013

High Resolution photo: [Frankenstein Dancers.jpg](#)
Photo Description: Ballet Victoria Dancers: Amanda Radetzky and Paul Destrooper
Photo Credit: Derek Ford

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FRANKENSTEIN: A ZOMBIE LOVE STORY

CHILLIWACK, BC— **Ballet Victoria** returns to Chilliwack with a unique dance thriller, perfectly timed for Halloween... *Frankenstein*. Still in the spirit of this eerie time of year, The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society presents a frighteningly good production from Ballet Victoria that combines the thrill of this gothic tale with superb ballet on **November 1 at 7:30pm**. Mixing an original blend of classical and contemporary movements with a fusion of genres ranging from classical selections to tangos, cha-chas and even opera, creates a unique ballet experience that you won't want to miss. A spine-chilling show, come see *Frankenstein* in a whole new light!

In **Ballet Victoria's** gripping version, the pieces of *Frankenstein's* creation are collected from a graveyard where a young couple, who died as they were about to be married, are buried. The music of Shostakovich's *Jazz Suite #2* creates a fitting atmosphere as Dr. Frankenstein and his assistant, Igor, diligently assemble a monster out of these salvaged parts. Joining them is the doctor's high-society wife, who loves ballroom dancing and constantly complains about the doctor's scientific experiments and interests. With an obvious conflicting personality to her husband's creative

character, a humorous pas de quatre ensues with the doctor, his wife, her friend, and Igor dancing a dramatic tango.

His attention refocused on his creation, the doctor soon realizes that his monster is missing an important part, the heart, and promptly sends his sidekick, Igor, back to the graveyard to locate one. Doctor Frankenstein inserts the missing piece and something magical begins to happen, the monster begins to feel emotion for the very first time, dreaming of a lost love and a bride that he was never able to marry. This dream develops into an exquisite pas de deux, danced to Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*. As the monster comes to life, the doctor's terrified wife wants to have him destroyed and a conflict escalates in the laboratory between the doctor, his wife, Igor and the monster. The eventual result is Frankenstein's monster fleeing to the graveyard where he encounters a wandering Corpse Bride who instantly recognizes his beautiful heart and is drawn to him.

The second act follows the corpse bride as she meanders through the forest longing for her lost groom. When the monster arrives, he catches a glimpse of her and recognizes that she is the one from his dream. Their love is not quite reestablished though as the doctor soon appears on the scene and tries to destroy him, resulting in a ruthless fight breaking out. Frankenstein's monster and the corpse bride eventually do come together and dance a thrilling pas de deux reminiscent of Romeo and Juliet requiting their love for one another.

An innovative ballet troupe, **Ballet Victoria** has developed a strong reputation for fun and narrative contemporary choreography, the Company's artistic director **Paul Destrooper** strives to bring a new polished technique and artistry to ballet adding a mix of humour, classical and popular cultural references with an emotional depth that appeals to audiences of all ages and cultures. Originally setting out with a vision of exploring the sense of isolation in dance, Destrooper has instead created a ballet of epic proportions, *Frankenstein: A Zombie Love Story*.

“Creation begins with inspiration,” says Destrooper. “As the dancers and I worked on this production, it became clear that this truly needed to be a love story. We were inspired to create a gothic romance filled with grace, beauty, goose bumps and the touch of the humour that we bring to everything we choreograph.”

Entering their 10th year the artistic team at **Ballet Victoria** have produced over 50 new works and are now exploring new territory with a wide range of choreographies ranging from Baroque music to Rock, from Opera to folk songs. The result is a fascinating ballet experience that is pure magic. Don't miss this fabulous opportunity to come see where Ballet can take you in this spooky ballet masterpiece. Expect the unexpected.

Tickets are \$32 for Adults, \$29 for Seniors, and \$27 for Students. Call the Centre Box Office at 604-391-SHOW(7469) or visit www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca for more information.

Frankenstein is generously sponsored by Fraserwest Law Group, Coast Chilliwack Hotel, The Chilliwack Progress, Department of Canadian Heritage, The City of Chilliwack, The British Columbia Arts Council, and The Province of British Columbia.

Create Your Own Series and Save! Purchase tickets for three or more qualifying performances and save \$5 per ticket! (*Shows must be bought at the same time to qualify*) Subscriptions are only available by phone or in person at The Centre Box Office.

Additional Information

Paul Destrooper became the Artistic Director of Ballet Victoria in September 2007. Every season he creates new works to add to the Canadian repertoire and stimulate audiences in new ways, breaking down stereotypes about ballet by infusing dramatics, varying styles, humour, and creating visual fluidity through his unique approach to choreography and technique that enhances the dancers' abilities to express the emotional content in their work.

In Frankenstein the monster basically embodies all of the flaws of mankind together and you have to dig deep to see his goodness initially. This can also be true of humans and reflective of our society. The monster is actually very empathic, generous and beautiful inside so he is a wonderful example of the duality of humans. The story brings to light how society often creates things that are self-serving oblivious to the damage that they are causing and the consequences of their creations. There are many examples of this such as medical innovations, war and weapons. However, the monster - even though he is destructive and full of flaws - is capable of empathy and love when the circumstances allow it.

[Ballet Victoria's website](#)

For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

Ann Goudswaard, Marketing Manager

T: 604.392.8000, ext. 103

E: ann@chilliwackculturalcentre.ca

Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Join us on [Facebook](#)

Follow our [Tweets](#)

Receive our [Newsletter](#)

Where Art Comes to Life

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, and offices, and is home to the Chilliwack Academy of Music. Since opening in 2010, over 120,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding 1,800,000. Overseen by The Chilliwack Arts and Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City of Chilliwack, other partners in the project include The Chilliwack Visual Artists Association, and The Chilliwack Players Guild.

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

Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society Board of Directors

Clint Hames - President

Patti Lawn - Past President

Neil Clark - Treasurer

Dave Stephen - Secretary, Past President

Directors at Large

Michael Audet

Jordan Forsyth

Marie Goldfinch

Michael Hamilton-Clark

Ralph Jones

Joy St. John

Ex-officio

Sue Attrill

Gord Pederson

Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society Partners

Chilliwack Academy of Music

Chilliwack Players Guild

Chilliwack Visual Artists Association

#