

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS & CULTURAL
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High Resolution photo: [Harpoonist and Axe Murderer jpeg](#)

Photo Description: Blues duo, Shawn 'The Harpoonist' Hall and
Matthew 'The Axe-Murderer' Rogers.

Photo Credit: Photo credit: [Leigh Righton](#)

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RAW, PRIMAL BLUES PACKED WITH ADRENALINE

CHILLIWACK, BC - While the phrase *The Harpoonist and The Axe-Murderer* might bring to mind a re-make of *The Shining* starring Captain Ahab, it's actually the name of the Vancouver-based blues sensation that will be marking the Cultural Centre's fourth anniversary with their funky, soul-filled tunes on **October 4, 2014**. Unlike anything that has come to our stage before, *The Harpoonist and The Axe Murderer* are the perfect way to celebrate the diverse and eclectic range of entertainment available at the Cultural Centre, while soaking up a night of soulful, raw blues!

Taking inspiration from the iconic song-writing of the blues legacy, spontaneous stairwell jam sessions, and grisly nautical imagery, *The Harpoonist and The Axe Murderer* have been honing their sound and unique approach to music since 2008. With their new album *A Real Fine Mess*, the duo have merged the emotion and soulfulness of 50s, 60s, and 70s blues with funk attitude and rhythm to give the genre a truly modern twist. The end product is "greasy gut-twisting soul that envelopes your senses till your knees start shaking", says Shawn 'The Harpoonist' Hall, and a sound that is sure to raise the pulse of blues, funk, folk and rock fans alike!

This broad appeal is only amplified by *The Harpoonist and The Axe-Murderer's* unique set-up. With such a huge, layered sound, you may be surprised to learn that the band is comprised of only two individuals that employ some rather resourceful musicianship and impressive co-ordination to bring their unbelievable tunes to stage! “We started quite basically with a porch board pedal, an acoustic guitar, and an acoustic harp” says Shawn. “Our set up got considerably more complex as our audiences grew and we increased our musical output.” The band have stayed loyal to a stripped-down approach however, with Shawn providing rugged vocal and harmonica duties as his bandmate Matthew ‘The Axe-Murderer’ Rogers draws the blues from the guitar, while simultaneously handling rhythm with his arsenal of foot percussion! This has inevitably led their song writing in a direction you’re not likely to hear anywhere else, and that draws in listeners with its distinctive atmosphere and personality. “People don’t really know how to label us” Shawn goes on, “as we’ve consciously veered from the 12 bar format of blues song writing. But at the end of the day we’re simply playing a kick drum, a snare, a Telecaster and a harmonica. The result appeals to people of all ages because it is so very much pure and honest.”

After a summer of festival hopping and performing to critical acclaim at such events as the Winnipeg Folk Fest, Ottawa Blues Fest, Calgary Folk Fest and Montreal Jazz Festival, the duo are not planning on slowing things down. With *A Real Fine Mess* set to hit Canadian airwaves like a ton of bricks, *The Harpoonist and The Axe Murderer* are ready and raring to bring the blues to stages across the country, and show audiences just what you can do with a guitar and a kick drum. Their unique approach and attitude embodies everything exciting about the exhilarating arts and culture community of the lower mainland and their show in Chilliwack will be the best possible way to celebrate the Cultural Centre’s very first show back in 2011!

“Their music slaps you in the face and makes you sweat like it’s a sticky, summer night. It cuts you to the core. It’s the blues played the way it was meant to be played.”

So come along on **October 4, 2014** to experience what Shawn says will “be the most honest expression of pain, lust, and redemption you will experience onstage this fall... or at least to witness us die trying”, and a night of awesome music you won’t soon forget. Call the Centre Box Office at 604-391-SHOW (7469) or visit chilliwackculturalcentre.ca and get your tickets for a night of celebration and soulful, primal expression!

The Harpoonist and The Axe Murderer is generously sponsored by Bathe Plumbing, John Martin MLA, Chilliwack Community Arts Council, The Chilliwack Progress, The Drive, Best Western Rainbow Country Inn, The Province of British Columbia, The British Columbia Arts Council, The City of Chilliwack and The Department of Canadian Heritage.

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Additional Information

Official Website

<http://www.harpoonistaxemurderer.com/bio/>

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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 188,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding 2,600,000. 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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The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society is registered under the British Columbia Society Act as a not-for-profit society (society number S-54973), and is a registered Canadian charitable organization under the Canadian Charities Directorate. (charity number 805742897 RR0001)

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