

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS &
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High Resolution photo: [Rebecca Wenham.jpg](#)
Description: Rebecca & Cello
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Inspirational Musicians in a Dazzling Morning Duet

CHILLIWACK, BC— Captivating classical musicianship, intimate connection and atmosphere, and all topped off with delicious complimentary refreshments - what better way could there be to start the day? All this and more are captured in The Chilliwack Cultural Centre's *Classical Music Series*, returning with its first installment featuring host *Sarah Hagen and Special Guest Rebecca Wenham* at **10:30am on October 16, 2015!**

A spectacular union of the piano and cello that is sure to get your Friday off to a most inspirational of starts, this morning concert is an opportunity to experience the talents of these world-class performers in a delightfully open and friendly setting - and to share in coffee and conversation as well as stirring musicianship! The personal connection of these concerts characterizes Sarah's approach to performing, and after

curating two previous Classical Music Series' at The Centre, the much-acclaimed pianist is thrilled to make her way back to Chilliwack. "Chilliwack is full of amazing people and I feel honoured to get to know the audience through music" she says. "The closeness of the shows at The Centre is always amazing - and I love the warmth of the audience and having the chance to share a cup of coffee before each concert." And, although Sarah's unbelievably long list of accolades includes winning the BC Touring Council's 2015 Touring Artist of the Year Award ("I was so truly surprised to win!") after demonstrating her prowess in concert halls the world over, there's one thing that this Vancouver-based virtuoso truly loves. "There's no place like home!" Sarah proclaims. "I love being on the road, but I also cherish the folks I meet on the west coast. I'm so grateful for the way people in BC celebrate a sense of community - that truly does form a large part of why these morning concerts are so special."

This wonderful base of community and connectivity provides the perfect setting for Sarah and her guest Rebecca's true talents to emerge - and the unbelievable abilities of these astounding musicians are sure to fill the Rotary Hall Studio Theatre with compelling atmosphere and stirring sounds - and perhaps a few surprises! "Sarah and I have been playing together for a number of years" Rebecca reveals, "and it is very natural for us to perform together. We don't tend to spend much time in discussion - we can generally intuit what the other is doing which allows us to be free and expressive. You could say we share a musical sensibility!" And it isn't just Sarah and Rebecca that share a bond - the partnership of their instruments also ensures this concert will be an enthralling experience. "The piano and cello have such a wide collective range of possibilities when it comes to musical colour and timbre" Rebecca continues, "which makes their combination so endlessly interesting. It gives both performers and composers the chance to play around, allowing one instrument to emerge at a time, or teasing the ear by weaving both instruments in and out interchangeably."

Concluding by reflecting the comments of her friend and special guest, Sarah summarizes the extraordinary atmosphere that this concert will offer. "Rebecca and I love playing together and have a great deal of expressive freedom with each other -

we create a kind of shared emotional experience, a tapestry of feelings and experiences drawn from the audience. Rebecca is a world class musician and I'm always incredibly inspired when I play with her - it's such an honour for me!"

So to witness the remarkable outcome of when two musicians of such incredible calibre connect with one another join The Centre in welcoming ***Sarah Hagen and Rebecca Wenham*** to Chilliwack at **10:30am on *October 16, 2015***. Tickets are \$27 for Adults, \$24 for Seniors, and \$22 for Students, and are available at The Centre Box Office, visit www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca or call 604-391-SHOW(7469) for more information.

Sponsors: Sardis Bakery, The Royal Hotel, The Chilliwack Progress, The British Columbia Arts Council, The City of Chilliwack, Province of British Columbia, and The Department of Canadian Heritage.

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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 270,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding 3,640,00. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City.

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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Thanks,

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