

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS &  
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High Resolution photo: [Mixed Bag.jpg](#)  
Description: Amanda & Mike Split Light  
Photo Credit: Rainbow Dance Theatre

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## Mixed Bag Captivates, Compels, and Questions

CHILLIWACK, BC— After taking a year-long break from presenting live professional dance, **The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society** is thrilled to bring more vibrant, captivating, and boundary-pushing art to the community, with **Rainbow Dance Theatre** presenting the eclectic, exhilarating, and intellectually engaging ***Mixed Bag*** on **October 23, 2015!** A varied repertory dance show compiling three inspirational choreographies into one compelling, enchanting, and uniquely resourceful presentation, ***Mixed Bag*** will astound you with its ability to tackle some of society's most profound questions while presenting live dance in an innovative and poignant way.

This show doesn't simply comprise three disparate choreographies - from beginning to end, ***Mixed Bag*** flows with a theme of interconnectedness, humanity and our role in the universe, and according to Rainbow Dance Theatre's Artistic Director Valerie Bergman, begins at the perfect point; the universe's origins. "The first piece

presented in is named *Higgs Boson*” Valerie reveals, “and is an artistic reflection on the initial creative spark that began it all. It artistically plays with the strange balance within us of physical abstraction (how we are each just a collection of atomic particles which are constantly interchanging with all else in our environment) and personal construct (that which we call the self), and how each element, the abstract and the personal, are no less real because of the other.”

Bold in their embrace of complex subject matter as well as their approach to their art form, **Rainbow Dance Theatre’s** next piece reflects the delicate development of life on earth through an innovative creative development of their own. “The next piece, *Big Bang*, is a lovely and whimsical treatment of the evolution of life on earth” Valerie goes on. “It begins in a mysterious dark sea where the simplest of life forms emerge, continuing on through a procession of ever more complex life forms which are created by the dancers through **RDT’s** signature partnering style where two, three and even four dancers merge to form creatures inhabiting the evolving landscape of life forms.”

The creative and cosmic energy of the show’s first half will expand as Rainbow Dance Theatre flow into the show’s incredible climax, with the final piece demonstrating the conscience and message of the show. “The work ends with an explosive final section set in an over-populated city of today” concludes Valerie. “*Mixed Bag* continues humanity’s journey with a humorous yet poignant look at today’s global community irreparably altered by the developed world’s “disposable” society - a way of life which must be transformed if we are to sustain life as we know it on our planet earth.” Truly bringing the message of this piece to life, Rainbow Dance Theatre transform the stage in the most resourceful of ways - utilizing garbage bags, plastic bottles, and the kind of things that we toss in the trash without thinking about it, the show demonstrates a genuine artistic integrity, bringing its message into the very structure and aesthetic of the choreography. Graceful animals, unbelievable landscapes, and striking costumes made from plastic bags will grace the stage, and it will all come together to make you contemplate modern society in a way you never thought dance could.

All this and more awaits you with ***Mixed Bag***; an astounding work of dance that pushes the boundaries of what the art form can be, incorporating technology, social awareness, and the human body to envision the future both creatively and conceptually. To get in on **Rainbow Dance Theatre's** cosmic journey, book your tickets for this amazing show today!

Tickets are \$35 for Adults, \$32 for Seniors and \$30 for Students and are available at The Centre Box Office, visit [www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca](http://www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca) or call 604-391-SHOW(7469) for more information.

Sponsors: The Chilliwack Times, Chilliwack Coast Hotel, City of Chilliwack, 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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Chilliwack Visual Artists Association

**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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