

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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Canadian Fringe Storm Hits Chilliwack with Nashville Hurricane!

CHILLIWACK, BC— He's back! The master of virtuosity in every sense of the word, from acting to comedy to musical mastery, **Chase Padgett** returns to Chilliwack Cultural Centre this October with his whirlwind of country fingerpickin' fury ***Nashville Hurricane!*** After a spectacular barnstorming of Chilliwack with his wonderful **6 Guitars** in The Centre's last season, Chase will be bringing the mysterious tale of the best damned guitarist you've never heard of to life in The Centre on **October 22, 25 & 26, 2015.**

Packed with hickory-smoked tunes, storytelling flair, and a series of characters with more quirks and anecdotes than you could imagine ***Nashville Hurricane*** is the next step in Chase's inimitable and unforgettable style of fringe theatre. Performing to sold-out crowds at the Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Vancouver Fringe Festivals, as well

as receiving rave reviews from everybody from CBC to his audience members, with *Nashville Hurricane* Chase has cranked up the dynamism, poignancy, and sheer side-splitting hilarity of *6 Guitars* - resulting in a show that fulfils every wish you could have for a fringe theatre show. “Two things inspired me to write *Nashville*” Chase reveals of the show’s origins. “First, I wanted to take the same elements that were successful with *6 Guitars* - the music, the characters, the comedy, and use them to tell a single story from start to finish. Second, I was really into Tommy Emmanuel, an incredible acoustic guitarist who sounds like a one man orchestra. His Chet Atkins inspired music feels like a force of nature. So combine force of nature with country finger picking and you get *Nashville Hurricane!*”

“Nashville Hurricane is a force of nature. Don’t let it pass by you. Five Stars”

- CBC

“Padgett had the audience hanging on every word. Five Stars”

- Winnipeg Free Press

Described as “a marvel of storytelling - the audience leapt to a standing ovation”, *Nashville Hurricane* isn’t just a hybrid of comedic character acting and virtuoso guitar playing - it’s an experience that resonates with audiences personally, as well as comically and musically. “It connects with people because it’s a human story about discovering who you really are, what you really want, and what it’s going to take to get there” Chase goes on. “It’s a journey anyone can relate too. It just so happens to have some kick ass guitar playing in it.”

The journey Chase speaks of begins with humble trailer park beginnings, before unravelling story of the turbulent rise and demise of a guitar prodigy known only as the *Nashville Hurricane*. Featuring anecdotes from the young stars’ mentor, mother,

manager and others, a narrative unfolds that weaves outrageous comedy seamlessly into heart-warming tenderness - an approach Chase says captures both his personality and the imaginations of the audience. “Many of the stories are pulled from my own life, and sometimes they can still be a little scary to reveal even when told through a character. However, after I first premiered the show I saw how people reacted to these moments and I discovered the real power of vulnerability as an artist. At a certain point an audience wants to know what makes you tick and expressing your fears or shortcomings not only endears the audience to you but also make the comedy jump out and hit much harder. We see that kind of contrast in other things too. Why do they put salt in candy..? To make the sweetness pop out.”

And of course it’s impossible to even think about Nashville Hurricane without a mention of the centre-piece around which the story is built - the unbelievable, unforgettable, and downright unearthly guitar playing of the *Nashville Hurricane* - brought to stage by the incredible **Chase Padgett!** “My favorite thing about Nashville is the storytelling, “Chase concludes, “but also, while the show only features four songs, they are harder than anything I do in *6 Guitars*. Trust me - it’s no easy feat to pull off ‘The Devil Went Down to Georgia’ by myself!”

So to experience the amazing presence of a performer that has taken the national fringe circuit by storm, to relive the until-now-untold story of a forgotten icon of country fingerpickin’ fury, and to more than likely begin a journey of dedication to Chase Padgett’s shows - pick up a ticket for *Nashville Hurricane* today! Tickets are \$25 and are available at The Centre Box Office, visit www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca or call 604-391-SHOW(7469) for more information.

Sponsors: Long & McQuade Chilliwack, Aromatica Fine Teas, Dr. Yeng Chang, Convergys, Royal Hotel, Chilliwack Times, Chilliwack Academy of Music, City of Chilliwack, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

Ann Goudswaard, Marketing Manager

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E: ann@chilliwackculturalcentre.ca

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 3,6400,00. 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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