

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRE SOCIETY
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High Resolution photo: [Onegin.jpg](#)

Description: *Onegin* is a passionate new musical that uses its sweeping score to enthrall you, as Evgeni Onegin visits the Larin family estate, his romantic charms stir passions long forgotten by its residents.

Photo Credit: The cast of *Onegin* in the 2017 production. Costume design by Jacqueline Firkins. Set design by Drew Facey. Lighting design by John Webber. Photo by David Cooper.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Onegin is One of Those Rare Theatrical Moments You Do Not Want to Miss.

CHILLIWACK, BC – Within moments, you will know that you're witnessing something exceptionally special as The Arts Club's *Onegin* bares itself in its wild opening number where the ensemble tells you: "We hope to please, we hope to charm, we hope to break you open". On **March 4**, this musical that is as immersive as love itself will be coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre, where you will be swept up in a searing love story that will stroke you to your core.

The charismatic Evgeni Onegin finds himself inheriting land in the country when his uncle dies, and soon he finds himself embroiled in the lives of the neighbouring Larin family. The shy eldest daughter of the Larin family, Tatyana, quickly falls in love with

the rakish man, but her feelings aren't returned as Onegin is not one to simply settle down. His friend Vladimir Lensky, a poet, is engaged to Tatyana's enigmatic sister Olga, and soon Vladimir finds his romantic ideals challenged as Onegin flirts with his fiancée.

Co-written by musician Veda Hille and playwright Amiel Gladstone, *Onegin* is sung through with sweeping scores as the cast of characters tell a story of a charismatic young man and his ill-fated romance. In 2016, *Onegin* took the Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards by storm, where it won ten of the awards, including Outstanding Production. Hille and Gladstone's musical version of *Onegin* draws from both the opera by Tchaikovsky and the original novel in verse by 19th-century Russian author Alexander Pushkin which inspired it. Giving these classics a modern reworking, they aimed to please both traditional fans of the opera and a new modern audience. The show may be set near St. Petersburg in the early 19th century, but Gladstone plays fast and loose with time, place, and everything in between.

"We wanted to immerse ourselves in something about connection, a story that could challenge our sometimes corseted Canadian sensibilities. Something where the audience could swoon and get swept away. Something full of grand gestures, dance, and light. Something honest, but also modern. Because in the age of the cynic, where does the romantic fit?" Asks the playwright Veda Hille. "We wanted to give audiences the visceral experience of unrequited love. The characters' missed opportunities show us what happens when we don't embrace love when it comes. What it looks and feels like to turn away from its vitality and beauty. Ultimately, the show is our celebration of love. Our love of the theatre, our love for performing, our love for making things together, our love of the audience, and your connection to what we create."

Let them pull you into a 2018-feeling 19th-century Russia, where love and even life may prove ephemeral. *Onegin* is a show destined for great things, and is one of those rare theatrical moments which both deserves and demands to be seen.

Onegin is coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre on **March 4, 2018 at 7:30 pm**. Tickets are \$45 for adults, \$42 for seniors, \$40 for youths, and \$29 for value seats,

and can be purchased at the Centre Box Office, online at www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca, or by calling 604-391-SHOW(7469).

Oregon is sponsored by: Prime Signs, The Chilliwack Progress, the British Columbia Arts Council, the BC Touring Council, the Province of British Columbia, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Oregon's tour production sponsor: *Sandman Hotel*.

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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 O'Connor Group Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 315,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding \$4,900,000. 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, crafts and performance 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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