

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

Description: Don't Believe Your Eyes! UK magician Matt Johnson is in a class of his own - every show incorporates magic, sleight of hand, mind reading, comedy and lots of audience participation into a performance that has been hailed as Simply Brilliant!

Photo Credit: N/A

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Urban-style street magic, comedic timing and a slick stage presence - *Urban Deception!*

CHILLIWACK, BC — Full of illusions, magic, sleight-of-hand, mind reading, and a death-defying underwater escape, *Urban Deception* is an astonishing mix of urban-style street magic and comedic timing. On October 14 & 15, come and see Matt Johnson as he baffles audience members at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre with his spectacular style of magic in *Urban Deception*.

Johnson's began his career in his hometown of Sheffield, England, and he has been perfecting his craft in the art of magic and illusions for more than twenty years. From Vancouver to Japan to Dubai and Australia, he has travelled around the world, and as he travelled, his knowledge of the arts grew, and he picked up techniques and skills

from the countries he visited and the people he's met along the way. It is this unique perspective that has allowed Johnson to make his performances utterly captivating.

His most well-known and incredible water escape that was featured on Penn & Teller: Fool Us, was inspired by his brother, Jonathan. Jonathan has tuberous sclerosis, a genetic disease that grows benign tumours throughout his organs and causes regular seizures. The seizures rob him of his motor functions and his ability to breathe for minutes on end. Locking himself in the tank helps Johnson understand what his brother goes through. "When I am in the water tank, chained up, I am aware of my surroundings but cannot get out. The escape is the struggle and the fight that my brother goes through." His dangerous escape act will leave you holding your breath alongside him as he makes his escape from his locked tank filled with water.

Johnson's career has lead him not only across the globe, but he also has countless TV and movie credits to his name. Most recently, in the summer of 2017, Matt appeared on the hit TV show Penn & Teller Fool Us! While in 2014, he also starred in Wizard Wars on SyFy, a show that sees the world's top magicians battling head to head. Each performance has allowed him to refine his style of magic, and define it into something uniquely his own.

With performances that are bold, powerful and delivered with an edgy urban flair that is uniquely his own, Johnson has masterfully created a show that will leave you mystified.

Urban Deception is coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre on **October 14 and 15, 2017 at 7:30pm**. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at the Centre Box Office, online at www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca, or by calling 604-391-SHOW(7469).

Urban Deception is sponsored by: Prime Signs, Fortins Home Hardware, Kyle Hislop Royal LePage, Custom Printers, The Chilliwack Progress, Bathe Plumbing, Myriad, the BC Touring Council, The City of Chilliwack, the British Columbia Arts Council, the Province of British Columbia, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

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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