

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRE SOCIETY
9201 Corbould Street, Chilliwack BC V2P 4A6



Contact: Ann Goudswaard, Marketing Manager

604.392.8000, ext.103

ann@chilliwackculturalcentre.ca

www.chilliwackculturalcentre.com

January 22, 2019

High-Resolution photo: [Coppélia.jpg](#)

Description: Coppélia is one of the world's oldest surviving ballets. A comedic love story that delves into the mysterious mind of a lonely toymaker who wishes to bring a perfect doll to life. He creates Coppélia, a stunning, dancing doll which one of the local villagers falls madly in love with... and the adventure begins.

Photo Credit: Kamal Daid

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dazzle your sweetheart with an enchanted Valentine's Day performance when Ballet Jörgen brings the comedy *Coppélia* to Chilliwack!

CHILLIWACK, BC – Daring, bold and captivating, **Ballet Jörgen** returns to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre with one of the world's oldest ballets, *Coppélia*. Celebrate Valentine's Day with this incredible charming comedic ballet that follows the story of a love triangle between a local villager, his sweetheart and a dancing doll.

First performed in 1870, *Coppélia* is one of the world's oldest ballets. A comedic love story, *Coppélia* will take you into the mysterious mind of Dr. Coppélius, a lonely and disillusioned toymaker who wishes he could bring his creations to life. Comedic wonder ensues when he creates *Coppélia*, a stunning, life-sized doll that Nathanael, a villager, falls madly in love with, much to the chagrin of his partner Klara. Revealed through vibrant contemporary original choreography by the Order of Canada appointed Bengt Jörgen, the company's co-founder and artistic director, this fairytale playfully unravels.

Ballet Jörgen has been a staple contribution to the Canadian arts community since its creation 31 years ago in 1987. The organisation now produces more than 120 performances a year. Based in Toronto, *Ballet Jörgen* provides ballet training in elementary schools in partnership with George Brown College. With a goal of increasing attention to the performing arts industry, the company caters to new audiences and involves local dancers by offering the opportunity to take on roles in the performance.

In addition to their performance, *Ballet Jörgen* will share their art and expertise with the community with a number of classes. On **February 13** from **4:30 to 5:15 pm**, aspiring female dancers new to en pointe will learn how to deal with training on pointe, how to choose a shoe brand and style, and even manage the wear and tear on their feet with a *Pointe Shoe Clinic*. Youth dancers of all abilities aged fourteen to eighteen can register from the *Pointe Shoe Clinic* at the cost of \$10. Also taking place on **February 13** is the *Ballet Jörgen Master Class*, where dancers will have the opportunity to be guided through the steps of *Coppélia*. The Master Class runs from **5:30 to 7:00 pm** and costs \$15. Registering for a class also includes a ticket to Thursday's performance of *Coppélia*. Those wishing to register for both classes can do so through the Centre Box Office for \$20.

On the day of the show, the dancers of *Ballet Jörgen* and local photographer *Vicki Legere* will demonstrate how to capture the beauty of the human body in motion through photography. This workshop runs from **2:00 to 5:30 pm** on **February 14**.

An entrancing tale of love, *Coppélia*'s evocative story, paired with delightful music and Ballet Jörgen's impressive talent and stunning costumes, is the perfect way to spend Valentine's Day.

[Coppélia: A Comedy of Love](#) is coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre on **February 14 at 7:30 pm**. Tickets are \$45 for adults, \$42 for seniors, and \$40 for youths. Tickets can be purchased at the Centre Box Office, online at www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca, or by calling 604-391-SHOW(7469).

Coppélia is sponsored by: *Sure Stay Hotel, The Chilliwack Progress, the BC Touring Council, the British Columbia Arts Council, the City of Chilliwack, the Province of British Columbia, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.*

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For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

Ann Goudswaard, Marketing Manager
T: 604.392.8000, ext. 103
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 O'Connor Group Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 360,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value close to \$6,000,000. 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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City of Chilliwack
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Chilliwack Lions Club
Chilliwack Players Guild
Chilliwack School of Performing Arts
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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