

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

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

Description: Witty, wacky, and most of all womanly, *I Am Woman, Hear Me Laff!* is back to celebrate International Women's Day, and it's guaranteed to be more "herlarious" than ever with headliner Martha Chaves!

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

I Am Woman! Hear Me Laff! is back for more International Women's Day Fun!!

CHILLIWACK, BC – Get ready for another incredible night of sizzling, fast-paced humour and wit as *I Am Woman! Hear Me Laff!* returns to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre in celebration of International Women's Day with award winning headliner *Martha Chaves!* On **March 8**, a sidesplitting lineup of comediennes is coming together to celebrate the things that makes women so special and they are nothing short of witty, wacky, and womanly. This 'herlarious' show is bound to be an uproarious evening of female empowerment, support, and best of all, laughter, so make sure to gather your friends for a perfect night out!

A veteran of Montreal's *Just For Laughs Comedy Festival*, and other major comedy festivals in Canada, the United States and Latin America, *Martha Chaves* is the nights

spectacular headlining comic. Her straightforward style is infectious and her natural ability to relate to audience members has made this Nicaragua-born Canadian comedian a very popular headliner. She has had two nationally televised stand-up comedy specials: *Comics!* on CBC and *There's Something About Martha* on CTV and The Comedy Network, and she frequently performs on CBC Radio's *The Debaters*, *Because News* and *Laugh Out Loud*. Chaves has been honing her craft for over twenty years resulting in a captivating stage presence that will have you in stitches as she tackles subjects ranging from Rob Ford to the very Canadian custom of indoor shoes.

“Standup has been a home for me. My identity is intrinsically etched to Canadian comedy,” explains Chaves. “One of my proudest achievements is to have become a refugee by myself, become Canadian by myself, to have supported myself all of those years, and to be a Canadian comic of Nicaraguan origins.”

An accomplished actor, writer, standup comic, improviser and puppeteer *Christine Lippa* turns host as she starts the night off as our fabulous emcee. With dogged determination and a good measure of fearlessness, Lippa began her career in Vancouver in 1986, where she spent most of that first year schlepping beer, until she made her way to *Punchlines Comedy Cabaret*. She managed to survive the rest of the year on the amateur stage, where eventually she became a professional standup comic headlining for Yuk Yuk’s touring across Canada. She is now a veteran of several comedy festivals, including *Just For Laughs* in Montreal and is also a regular *Vancouver Theatresports* contributor. Lippa has also participated at the Centre in both *Sex & The Suburbs* and *Leave It to Cleavage*, and knows how to have the theatre howling with laughter.

Next up will be funny woman and opening comic *Alison Ogilvie*, a comic and storyteller who is proud to hail from bonny Scotland. With a warm Scottish brogue, Ogilvie knows how to leave an audience in stitches with her unique take on family life. In 2016, she made it into the semi-finals of *Vancouver’s Yuk Off* competition, and then went on to win BC’s funniest female in 2017.

Feature comic of the night will be the fireball *Melanie Rose*, and she has one hell of a story to tell. This divorced mother of four knows how to charm audiences with her tales of marriage, divorce, past drug addiction and mental health issues by always finding the funny within. A favourite at comedy clubs across the country and a *Yuk Yuk's* regular, Rose has been featured on the critically-acclaimed Crave TV show *She Kills Me* and *Victoria's Funny Women Festival*.

So gather your friends, mothers, sisters and even the men in your life, and join Christine, Alison, Melanie and Martha, as they share the comical side of life on March 8, 2018, in what is going to be an uproariously fun time!

I Am Woman! Hear Me Laff! is coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre on **March 8** at **7:30 pm**. Tickets are \$32 for adults, \$29 for seniors and \$27 for youth, and can be purchased at the Centre Box Office, online at www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca, or by calling 604-391-SHOW(7469).

I Am Woman! Hear Me Laff! is sponsored by: Cloverdale Paint, Bathe, The Coast Chilliwack Hotel, *The Chilliwack Progress*, *The City of Chilliwack*, *The British Columbia Arts Council*, *The British Columbia Touring Council*, *Province of British Columbia*, and *the Department of Canadian Heritage*.

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For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

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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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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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