

School of Music
Faculty of Fine Arts
University of Victoria

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**University
of Victoria**
School of
Music

Emerging Artists Alumni Series

Hale & Hearty

RACHEL CAPON (B.Mus '07)

cello and voice

&

ELI BENDER

cello and voice

Wednesday, October 14, 2015 • 8:00 p.m.

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall

MacLaurin Building, University of Victoria

Admission by donation

SET LIST

Fifer in the Dark	Eli Bender/Nate Bliton
Dixon Time	Rachel Capon
Charleston No. 1/Take Me back to Georgia	Narmour&Smith/ traditional Old-Time
I've Endured	Ola Belle Reed
Chain Cotillion	French traditional
250 to Vigo/Dot the Dragon's Eyes	Shooglenifty/ Hanneke Cassel
Brothers	Rachel Capon
French Balfolk Set	Traditional French dance music
Make me a pallet on the ground	Mississippi John Hurt
Road to Columbus/Saltspring	Kenny Baker/John Reischman
Balluchon	Eli Bender
Pasture of Plenty	Woody Guthrie

BIOGRAPHIES

RACHEL CAPON

A native of Gabriola Island, BC, Canadian multi-genre cellist Rachel Capon is currently based in Victoria, BC. At the University of Victoria, studying with cellists Pamela Highbaugh Aloni & Paula Kifner, Rachel excelled in both the jazz and classical ensembles. Since 2010, after relocating to Toronto, Rachel pushed her musical territory beyond the classical realm. In 2011, with the guidance of Yo-Yo Ma, Rachel traveled to New York City to study with avant-garde cellist Mike Block. Later that year, studying with celtic cellist Natalie Haas and five-string fiddle-star Lauren Rioux, Rachel found herself immersed in the world of North American fiddle styles and discovering new territories for the beloved cello.

Today Rachel works on a wide range of musical projects — she has performed live with hip-hop artist k-os on MTV, toured as the solo cellist for Illusion Theatre's production of *My Antonia*, and travelled to the Edmonton Fringe Festival with the *Alchemical Opera Project*, a one-man opera based on *Die Winterreise* for which she wrote and performed the solo cello score. Currently Rachel is working with her new ensemble The Sound Accord on an album—to be released in fall 2016—and is looking forward to their upcoming tours in Canada and the US. For the past four years, Rachel worked at the Dixon Hall Music School with a class of cellists as well as the string orchestra for inner-city Toronto youth. In the fall of 2014, Rachel and husband Eli Bender released their first full length album, *Always We Rambled*, as their cello duo Hale & Hearty. Having recently relocated to Victoria, Rachel is excited to reconnect with old colleges within the industry and looks forward to meeting future collaborators.

ELI BENDER

Cellist, educator, and composer, Eli Bender has recently relocated to Victoria, BC, where he is the new music director at Selkirk Montessori School. Having completed his studies in Music Education at Michigan State University where his growth as a cellist was overseen by Suren Bagratuni, his work in the realm of creative musicianship led him to study with cello masters such as Mike Block, Natalie Haas, and Rushad Eggleston.

This balance of classical pedagogy and creative musicianship has offered him opportunities to teach and perform with a variety of ensembles including the Marquette Symphony Orchestra, the band Gifts or Creatures, interning with the Fiddlers Restrung of Saline, and acting as Music Director for the Illusion Theater of Minneapolis.