

TERRACE STANDARD



Cheng² Duo siblings, cellist Bryan and pianist Silvie Cheng, have been making music together for 16 years and performed together at the R.E.M. Lee Theatre on Jan. 19. (Natalia Balcerzak/Photo)

Cheng² Duo perform in Terrace with 17th-century cello

Siblings bring classical music to R.E.M. Lee Theatre

[NATALIA BALCERZAK](#) / Jan. 21, 2019 12:20 p.m. / [COMMUNITY](#) / [ENTERTAINMENT](#) / [LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT](#) / [VIDEO](#)



Cheng² Duo, made up of musical siblings Bryan and Silvie Cheng, performed at the R.E.M. Lee Theatre on Jan. 19 as part of the Terrace Concert Society series.

As the recipient of the 2017 Canada Council for the Arts Michael Measures Prize, Bryan was awarded to play a 323-year-old 'Bonjour Stradivarius' cello from 1696 and a 'Shaw Adam' bow from 1830.

"I'm very fortunate to have been loaned (them for three years)," says Bryan. "The good thing is that they're not in museums and that they're actually being used."

Bryan has been making music alongside his pianist sister for 16 years, who was recognized with the Roy M. Rubinstein Award for exceptional promise in piano performance. Together, they have performed and recorded classical compilations throughout Canada, the USA, Europe, and Asia.

Silvie says that people often ask them if they have any secret signals between one another on stage when performing.

"If anyone did anything with anyone else like that for so long, you would just naturally have this close relationship and we're very lucky to have that. It's fun, every night is different."

Cheng² Duo was named as one of CBC Music's '30 hot Canadian classical musicians under 30.' They've already released two albums and a third is on its way this year.

"My favourite part is that regardless of background or age, music can speak and it's a universal language," Bryan says. "We're able to touch people and bring out these emotions that other words can't express, I think that's really satisfying."

With Terrace marking their fifth stop on their month-long tour through B.C. and the Yukon, Bryan says that it's been one of their best crowds so far.

"The audience was so enthusiastic and rapt from the beginning, we could really feel that they were connected to the music and that was very gratifying."



(Natalia Balcerzak/Photo)



(Natalia Balcerzak/Photo)



(Natalia Balcerzak/Photo)