

MEDIA RELEASE
June 2, 2017

An Arts Club Theatre Company production

Bittergirl: The Musical

Book by Annabel Fitzsimmons, Alison Lawrence, and Mary Francis Moore
With Music Supervision, Arrangements, and Orchestrations by Bob Foster

Granville Island Stage

June 15 – July 29, 2017 (Media opening: Wed June 14)

Mon–Thurs at 7:30 PM, Fri & Sat at 8 PM, Wed at 1:30 PM, and Sat at 2 PM

Tickets from \$29 at artsclub.com or the Arts Club Box Office at 604.687.1644

VANCOUVER, B.C.—THE HOWLINGLY FUNNY SHOW ABOUT GETTING OVER GETTING DUMPED

This cathartic and catchy musical charts the romantic breakups of three women and the lively antics that ensue. '60s girl group music, like “Be My Baby,” “And Then He Kissed Me,” “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough,” and “Where Did Our Love Go?” provide the perfect backdrop for the bittergirls’ journey back to happiness. Who knew getting dumped could be so much fun?

Artistic Managing Director **Bill Miller** says, “*Bittergirl: The Musical* is a contemporary hit created by three writers and actresses who turned heartbreak into a play, the play into a book, and all three into a hit musical. We toured this production across the Lower Mainland in January to rave reviews from audiences, so we’re excited to have that same energy and enthusiasm at our Granville Island Stage this summer.”

In 1999, **Annabel (Griffiths) Fitzsimmons**, **Alison Lawrence**, and **Mary Francis Moore**, met in Toronto—one divorced, one just dumped by her long time live-in, and one facing yet another failed short-term romance. The women took their outrageous and sometimes unbelievable experiences of getting dumped and turned them into the hilarious smash-hit play *BITTERGIRL*; touring the show from London to New York City, and performing three sold-out runs in Toronto.

Audiences immediately connected to the show and often sought advice from the seasoned break-up experts, so the bittergirls decided to turn their stories into the relationship advice book *BITTERGIRL: Getting Over Getting Dumped*, which was published by Penguin in 2005. Building on the interest in both the play and the book, Fitzsimmons, Lawrence, and Moore wrote *Bittergirl: The Musical* to offer a new flavour to the bittergirl brand. Retaining all the hilariously unbelievable breakup stories, but adding the sweetest girl-group music from the '60s and '70s, *Bittergirl: The Musical* is a fizzy cocktail for musical lovers and heartbreak survivors. The popular show debuted at the Charlottetown festival in June of 2015, with recent productions at Edmonton’s Citadel Theatre and Winnipeg’s Manitoba Theatre Centre.

“A sparkling, hit-filled celebration of misfortune”—*The Guardian*

Starring **Lauren Bowler**, **Katrina Reynolds**, **Cailin Stadnyk**, and **Josh Epstein**.

Director & Choreographer **Valerie Easton**, Musical Director **Diane Lines**, Set Designer **Ted Roberts**, Costume Designer **Carmen Alatorre**, Lighting Designer **Robert Sondergaard**, Sound

Designer **Brad Danyluk**, Stage Manager **Pamela Jakobs**, Apprentice Stage Manager **April Starr Land**

Musicians **Madeleine Elkins** (Guitar), **Linda Kidder** (Drums), **Diane Lines** (Keyboard), and **Monica Sumulong** (Bass).

CONTACT

Amy Lynn Strilchuk, Publicist: 604.687.5315 or publicity@artsclub.com. High-resolution images are available for download at artsclub.com/media. The username is **journalist** and the password is **photos4media**. Video footage is available by request and at youtube.com/ArtsClubVan.

ABOUT THE ARTS CLUB

The Arts Club Theatre Company, founded in 1964, is Canada's largest not-for-profit urban theatre company. Led by Artistic Managing Director Bill Millerd and Executive Director Peter Cathie White, it offers professional theatre at three venues—the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, Granville Island Stage, and the Goldcorp Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre—as well as on tour throughout the province.

Website: artsclub.com

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