

MEDIA RELEASE
January 5, 2018

An Arts Club Theatre Company production

JITTERS

By **David French**

Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage

January 25–February 25, 2018 (Media opening: January 31)

Tue–Thu at 7:30 PM, Fri & Sat at 8 PM, Wed at 1:30 PM, and Sat & Sun at 2 PM

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

IN BRIEF The Arts Club presents *Jitters*, a comedy by **David French** that celebrates the ups and downs of life in the theatre, from **January 25 to February 25** at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage. Set in 1979, this production’s design pays homage to the Arts Club’s original Seymour Street Stage.

VANCOUVER, B.C.—First performed in 1979 at Tarragon Theatre in Toronto, *Jitters* was an instant critical and commercial success. In the years since, it has proven to be one of Canada’s most enduring and popular plays and “a bona fide Canadian classic” (*Toronto Star*).

The story follows a group of actors rehearsing a new play with hopes of Broadway-bound success. Comprising this motley crew are diva Broadway expat Jessica Logan (**Megan Leitch**), her counterpart Patrick Flanagan (**Robert Moloney**), and their castmates Tom Kent (**Kamyar Pazandeh**) and Phil Mastorakis (**James Fagan Tait**). Together, they struggle to set aside their egos and anxieties in order to make it to the big time.

Add to that a besieged director (**Martin Happer**), a disciplinarian stage manager (**Raugi Yu**) and his assistant (**Lauren Bowler**), the timid playwright (**Ryan Beil**), and an unflappable front-of-house manager (**Kaitlin Williams**), and anything from a forgotten line to a faulty wig may just make or break their new Canadian play.

This Arts Club production, directed by **David Mackay**, pays tribute to the company’s beginnings at the Seymour Street Stage, particularly with the set design by **Ted Roberts**.

On directing the show, Mackay says, “There are a number of reasons I’m excited to be directing *Jitters*. One, we’re setting it in period, in all its 1979 glory—the tail end of disco meets the upswing of new wave. As well, this production has a collection of stellar comedic actors. And finally, this backstage comedy is hilarious. The characters are believable as they stumble hysterically towards opening night. A true Canadian classic!”

“The happiest case of stage fright I have ever encountered” —*New York Post*

Starring **Ryan Beil** (Robert Ross), **Lauren Bowler** (Peggy), **Martin Happer** (George Ellsworth), **Megan Leitch** (Jessica Logan), **Robert Moloney** (Patrick Flanagan), **Kamyar Pazandeh** (Tom Kent), **James Fagan Tait** (Phil Mastorakis), **Kaitlin Williams** (Susi), **Raugi Yu** (Nick)

Director **David Mackay** Set Designer **Ted Roberts** Costume Designer **Mara Gottler** Lighting Designer **Gerald King** Sound Designer **Murray Price** Stage Manager **Angela Beaulieu** Assistant Stage Manager **Peter Jotkus**

CONTACT

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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, Incoming Artistic Director Ashlie Corcoran, 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.

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