

MEDIA RELEASE  
January 26, 2017



An Arts Club Theatre Company production ON TOUR

# BITTERGIRL: The Musical

Book by Annabel Fitzsimmons, Alison Lawrence, and Mary Francis Moore

**IN BRIEF ON TOUR** February 16 – March 15, 2017 Arts Club Theatre Company's *Bittergirl: The Musical*. Full schedule, including links to presenting partners at [artsclub.com](http://artsclub.com)

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 Millerd 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're exciting to bring audiences across the Lower Mainland this new musical that has delighted audiences across the country!”

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.

Following the Lower Mainland tour, *Bittergirl: The Musical* will run at the Granville Island Stage from June 15 to July 29, 2017.

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

Starring **Cailin Stadnyk, Lauren Bowler, Katrina Reynolds, 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), **NoeLani Jung** (Drums), **Linda Kidder** (Bass), and **Diane Lines** (Keyboard).

#### TOUR CONTACT

April Green, Tour Coordinator: 604.687.5315, ext. 254 or [agreen@artsclub.com](mailto:agreen@artsclub.com)

#### MEDIA CONTACT

Amy Lynn Strilchuk, Publicist: 604.687.5315 or [publicity@artsclub.com](mailto:publicity@artsclub.com)

High-resolution images are available for download at [artsclub.com/media](http://artsclub.com/media). The username is journalist and the password is photos4media. Video footage is available at [youtube.com/ArtsClubVan](http://youtube.com/ArtsClubVan) with b-roll access by request.

<i>Venue and Contact Info</i>	<i>Date</i>
WEST VANCOUVER Kay Meek Centre 604.981.6335	Feb 16 & 17, 2017
NEW WESTMINSTER *New Arts Club On Tour Venue* Anvil Centre 604.521.5050	Feb 18, 2017
NORTH VANCOUVER The BlueShore at Cap 604.990.7810	Feb 21, 2017
SURREY Surrey Arts Centre 604.501.5566	Feb 22–Mar 4, 2017
MISSION Clark Theatre 1.877.299.1644	Mar 5, 2017
COQUITLAM Evergreen Cultural Centre 604.927.6555	Mar 7–11, 2017
MAPLE RIDGE The ACT Arts Centre 604.476.2787	Mar 12, 2017
BURNABY Shadbolt Centre for the Arts 604.205.3000	Mar 14 & 15, 2017

#### 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 Goldcorp Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre—as well as on tour throughout the province.

Website: [artsclub.com](http://artsclub.com)

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