

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY REVEALS 2024–2025 SEASON LINEUP

BIG MUSICALS, CLASSIC HOLIDAY FAVOURITES, AND CANADIAN PREMIERES FILL THREE THEATRES FOR 61ST SEASON

IN BRIEF: The Arts Club Theatre Company's 2024–2025 season kicks off in September with big musicals, classic holiday favourites, and Canadian premieres at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, the Granville Island Stage and the Newmont Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre. Single tickets will go on sale to the general public in the summer.

MARCH 4, 2024, 8:30 PM VANCOUVER, B.C./ / Traditional territory of the xwmə@kwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations - Today, the Arts Club Theatre Company's Artistic Director Ashlie Corcoran and Executive Director Peter Cathie White announced the 2024–2025 season programming for Western Canada's leading non-profit theatre organization, with 11 shows across three Arts Club venues—the Stanley Industrial Alliance stage, the Granville Island Stage and the Newmont Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre—for their 61st season.

"We are thrilled to be bringing 11 exciting shows to our audiences across three stages for our 61st season," Corcoran said. "I am elated that amongst these 11, we have two Canadian premieres, eight plays written and co-written by women, four shows filled with music, three productions by Canadian playwrights, and four engaging adaptations. We invite audiences and theatre-lovers across the Lower Mainland to join us in celebrating the rich diversity of Canadian theatre across our three stages."

Cathie White added, "Patrons may recognize some familiar names and titles, and they will also be encouraged by the artists who will bring these to life on our stages. Over the past few years, we have continued to raise our levels of artistic excellence by investing in our productions and strengthening our commitment to artists, artisans, and craftspeople in British Columbia. We strive to celebrate these superb talents even more during our ambitious upcoming season."

The 2024–2025 season will kick off in September at the Arts Club's flagship venue, the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, with the international music phenomenon *Jersey Boys*, followed by the return of a holiday favourite, *Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol*. The swashbuckling comedy *The Three Musketeers* will brighten the stage in January. A Canadian premiere of the innovative comedic drama and rock concert, *Cambodian Rock Band*, and *Casey and Diana*, a gripping and potent drama, come to the Stanley in the spring. The season closes in the summer with the Tony Award–nominated inspirational musical feast *Waitress*, inspired by the hit 2007 film, with music by Grammy Award–winning singer-songwriter Sara Bareilles.

The Granville Island Stage warms the heart for the holiday season with the joyful and nostalgic *Miracle on 34th Street. Primary Trust,* a remarkable story of friendship, is up next in February, followed by Mieko Ouchi's unique road trip story, *Burning Mom*. The Granville Island Stage celebrates the iconic work of Agatha Christie, concluding the season with *The Mousetrap*. Can you solve this world-famous mystery?



Finally, *The Gingerbread Men: A(nother) Holiday Cabaret* will grace the Newmont Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre this holiday season as they are back with a new set of toe-tapping classic tunes.

2024–2025 ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY SEASON

Titles, performance dates, and creative teams subject to change.

STANLEY INDUSTRIAL ALLIANCE STAGE

JERSEY BOYS

The Captivating True Story of an International Music Sensation Book by **Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice** Music & Lyrics by **Bob Gaudio and Bob Crewe** Director & Choreographer **Julie Tomaino** Musical Director **Ken Cormier** September 5–October 20, 2024 *"I know that our audience is going to love witnessing the inside story of how the Four Seasons came together, learning about the highs and lows of the interpersonal relationships, all the while hearing the tunes that they know and adore." —Ashlie Corcoran (AC)*

DOLLY PARTON'S SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS CAROL

Based on *A Christmas Carol* by **Charles Dickens** Adapted by **David H. Bell**, **Paul T. Couch & Curt Wollan** Book by **David H. Bell** Music & Lyrics by **Dolly Parton** Director **Bobby Garcia** Musical Director **Ken Cormier** Choreographer **Julio Fuentes** November 14–December 24, 2024 *"This show has sparkle, joy, wit, and great tunes that we so need. We are so excited for our audience to get the chance to experience it once more —or for the very first time!" —AC*

THE THREE MUSKETEERS

A Swashbuckling Adventure for the Ages Adapted by Catherine Bush From the novel by Alexandre Dumas A co-production with the Citadel Theatre (Edmonton) Director Daryl Cloran Fight Director Jonathan Hawley Purvis January 16–February 16, 2025 *"Daryl Cloran is a master at staging this type of epic adventure, and I can't wait to see what he creates for us!"* —AC

CAMBODIAN ROCK BAND **A Canadian Premiere A Journey of Music and Legacy—30 Years in the Making! By Lauren Yee

Featuring songs by Dengue Fever

Director **Jivesh Parasram** March 6–April 6, 2025 *"This Canadian premiere is disturbing, funny, thrilling, joyful, and tragic—these sharp clashes of tone help share the reality of the nightmarish brutality of the Khmer Rouge." —AC*

CASEY AND DIANA The Handshake of Hope

By Nick Green Director Andrew Kushnir April 24–May 25, 2025

"As humans—and as theatregoers—we are desperate to feel, to be moved, to find solace, to be thrilled into thought, action, and provocation. And that's what theatre can do. While some of our programming is focused on joy, laughter, and silliness, I believe there is also a desire to feel longing and sorrow for fictional characters—especially if we can experience these sensations in a safe place."—AC

WAITRESS

An Empowering Recipe for Joy Book by Jessie Nelson Music & Lyrics by Sara Bareilles Based upon the motion picture written by Adrienne Shelly Director Ashlie Corcoran Musical Director Caitlin Hayes Choreographer Shelley Stewart Hunt June 12–August 3, 2025 "Waitress was a huge Broadway—and then commercial touring—hit. The phenomenal score is filled with moving songs that are unexpected, quirky, beautiful, and character driven. Something I know our audiences will love." —AC

GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET A Fresh Take on a Christmas Classic Adapted by Caleb Marshall & Erin Keating from the Classic Story by Valentine Davies Director TBD November 21–December 29, 2024 *"This is a story about compassion, about imagination, and about supporting those we believe in. And it fills me with so much nostalgia and warmth." —AC*

PRIMARY TRUST **A Canadian premiere Finding the Courage to Change By Eboni Booth Director Ashlie Corcoran February 6 – March 2, 2025 "The empathy and compassion I felt for each of the characters in Primary Trust is exactly what our world needs right now. This Canadian premiere celebrates the idea of meeting each other where we are; it gently encourages the rejection of seclusion for its alternative: the power of friendship." —AC

BURNING MOM A Different Kind of Road Trip By Mieko Ouchi Director Mieko Ouchi March 27–April 20, 2025 *"I love art that can be as specific as Mieko's piece—a true-life tale of the playwright's mother—while also speaking to our audience about the universal experiences of life: love, grief, and personal empowerment." — AC*

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's Genre-Defining Whodunnit By Agatha Christie Director Stephen Drover June 26–August 10, 2025 "There is definitely a reason that this show has run in the West End for over 70 years—and it's not simply nostalgia! Agatha Christie's writing is still stylish, funny, and (truly!) as scary as ever."—AC

NEWMONT STAGE AT THE BMO THEATRE CENTRE

THE GINGERBREAD MEN: A(NOTHER) HOLIDAY CABARET An Arts Club Presentation Brennan Cuff Brandyn Eddy Jer Lowe Jeffrey Victor December 5–22, 2024

"Prepare to be whisked away on a dough-lightful cabaret of classic holiday songs and merriment. Fresh out of the pan, these cookie-crazed crooners sing the classics like you know them. They cover many musical genres from doo wop, jazz, and barbershop all while ensuring they don't stray too far from the versions you know and love."—AC

SEASON SPONSORS



ABOUT THE ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY

The Arts Club Theatre Company is situated on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, in particular the <u>xwmə0kwəyyəm</u> (Musqueam), <u>Skwxwú7mesh</u> (Squamish), and <u>səlilwətał</u> (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We invite you to reflect on your relationship to these lands.

The Arts Club is one of the largest not-for-profit theatre organizations in the country and is the principal gathering place for the theatrical arts in British Columbia. Comprising three unique venues across Vancouver, the Arts Club welcomes more than a quarter million guests annually, tours provincially and nationally, and engages students and artists alike through educational and professional programs.

Above all, the Arts Club is dedicated to the advancement of local artists telling stories from around the globe and, in particular, those of our region. From this, we believe that culture expands, an understanding of differences is nurtured, and art bursts forth. The Arts Club was founded in 1964 and is currently led by Artistic Director Ashlie Corcoran and Executive Director Peter Cathie White.

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