

— FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—

## ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR [EVERY BRILLIANT THING](#)

By Duncan Macmillan  
With Jonny Donahoe**February 8–March 3, 2024 (Media opening: February 14)**

**IN BRIEF** The Arts Club Theatre Company's production of *Every Brilliant Thing* plays **February 8–March 3** at the [Newmont Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre](#), 162 West 1st Avenue, Vancouver. Tickets from \$25. More info at [artsclub.com](http://artsclub.com)

**VANCOUVER, B.C. (January 15, 2024)**—Find joy in life's intricacies in *Every Brilliant Thing*, playing **February 8–March 3** at the Arts Club Theatre Company's **Newmont Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre**.

What do you do when you're just seven years old and mum finds it hard to be happy? Start writing down for her every brilliant thing worth living for—ice cream, water fights, rollercoasters—and then never stop. #315 The smell of old books. #994 Hairdressers who listen to what you want. #2000 Coffee. #9996 Sex. As time passes and the list grows, what began as a naive attempt to deal with tragedy becomes an epic chronicle of life's small joys. This list takes on a life of its own in an unusually funny show about depression and love.

Starring in this solo show is **Naomi Wright**, who has been nominated for eight Jessie Awards, two Dora Awards, and a SATA award for her work on Canadian stages. The audience, a key element of the story, is kindly invited to add to the list or step in as a character, which illustrates the power of community.

The Arts Club's Artistic Director, **Ashlie Corcoran**, who is directing this show, said, "*Every Brilliant Thing* lifts spirits, buoys belief in humankind, and creates wonder about the minutiae of daily life. It's sweet, simple *and* complex, and full of meaning. It's one of the best examples I have experienced of gentle audience participation, and it's perfect for our most intimate theatre."

Originally performed at the 2014 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, *Every Brilliant Thing* was such an enormous hit that it was invited for a four-month run in New York City. During its run at the Barrow Street Theatre in New York, it was filmed for broadcast on HBO.

### REVIEWS

★★★★★ "Engaging and empathetic... one of the best plays of the year" —*Now Magazine*

"*Every Brilliant Thing* is brilliant" —*The Globe and Mail*



“*Every Brilliant Thing* is a life-affirming, wholesome and simple story of how existential hope is achieved by focusing on the miracles of life’s minutiae” –*The Toronto Star*

“Heart-wrenching, hilarious...possibly one of the funniest plays you’ll ever see, full stop” –*The Guardian*

#### ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHTS

Duncan Macmillan is a former Writer-in-Residence at Paines Plough and Manchester Royal Exchange. His plays include the acclaimed adaptation of George Orwell’s *1984*, co-adapted/co-directed with Robert Icke; *Every Brilliant Thing*; *2071*, co-written with Chris Rapley; and *Monster*. He was the recipient of two awards in the inaugural Bruntwood Playwriting Competition (2006). Other awards include Best New Play at the Off West End Awards (2013) for *Lungs*, the Big Ambition Award, Old Vic (2009), and the Pearson Prize (2008). His work with director Katie Mitchell has been selected for Theatertreffen and the Avignon Festival.

Jonny Donahoe is the co-creator and original performer of the acclaimed worldwide smash *Every Brilliant Thing*, which he performed over 400 times across four continents. Donahoe’s comedy act, *Jonny and the Baptists*, tours regularly throughout Britain and the rest of the world. His stage plays include *Thirty Christmases*, which opened at The Old Fire Station in Oxford, and then transferred the following year off West End to the New Diorama. He is currently adapting this play for TV. Donahoe has made a podcast series with his real-life partner, Josie Long, called *Josie & Jonny Are Having a Baby (With You!)*, and another with Paddy Gervers called *Making Paddy Happy*.

#### CAST

**Naomi Wright**

#### CREATIVE TEAM

**Ashlie Corcoran** (Director), **Stephanie Wong** (Set Designer), **Tiffany Bishop** (Costume Coordinator), **Itai Erdal** (Lighting Designer), **Anton Lipovetsky** (Sound Designer), **Anna Garoucheva Gonzalez** (Assistant Director), **Pamela Jakobs** (Stage Manager), **Devon Vecchio** (Apprentice Stage Manager)

#### SHOWTIMES + SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

Evenings: Tue–Thu, 7:30 PM; Fri & Sat, 8 PM

Matinees: Wed, 1:30 PM; Sat & Sun, 2 PM

[Talkback Tuesday](#): Tue, Feb 27, 7:30 PM

[VocalEye Performances](#): Sun, Mar 3, 2 PM

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#### 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 [xʷməθkʷəy̓əm](#) (Musqueam), [Skwxwú7mesh](#) (Squamish), and [Selilwitulh](#) (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. As we are all here together, 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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