

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET

Book by Colin Escott & Floyd Mutrux Original concept and direction by Floyd Mutrux Inspired by Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis & Carl Perkins

June 22-August 6, 2023 (Media opening: June 28)

IN BRIEF The Arts Club Theatre Company's production of <u>*Million Dollar Quartet*</u> plays **June 22–August 6** at the **Granville Island Stage**, 1585 Johnston Street, Vancouver. Tickets from \$39. More info at <u>artsclub.com</u>

VANCOUVER, B.C. (May 23, 2023)—For one day and one day only, four rock legends came together to make history and you can witness it all with *Million Dollar Quartet*, playing June 22–August 6 at the Granville Island Stage.

The date is December 4, 1956. The place is Sun Records in Memphis, Tennessee. Elvis Presley (**Stephen Thakkar**), Jerry Lee Lewis (**Mateo Chavez Lewis**), Carl Perkins (**Felix LeBlanc**), and Johnny Cash (**Tanner Zerr**) had the jam session of a lifetime. Inspired by this true event, *Million Dollar Quartet* will take you into the studio to experience the music, the emotion, and the spirit of it all. This jukebox musical is filled with classic songs, including "Blue Suede Shoes," "Great Balls of Fire," "That's Alright," "Folsom Prison Blues," and more.

The show's director, **Bobby Garcia**, said, "The piece is about that moment in time when music began to speak to us in a personal way. It's an ode to four beloved musical icons and the genius who made them legends, brought to life each night with high-voltage energy and musical fireworks by a crazy-talented cast of singers/actors/musicians. *Million Dollar Quartet* celebrates rock 'n' roll, providing us with the nostalgia we all crave and need right now."

This is not the first time that the spirits of the quartet have graced an Arts Club stage; the musical was popular hit when it was produced at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage in the 2016–2017 season. This new production will be a fresh take on the piece and will feature an entirely new cast stepping into these iconic roles.

Of the show, Arts Club's Artistic Director **Ashlie Corcoran** said, "*Million Dollar Quartet* is the perfect musical to keep our Granville Island Stage rocking all summer long and to end our 2022–2023 season with a bang. You can't help but love the nostalgic rock 'n' roll tunes by Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Johnny Cash. Those names alone get your feet tapping!

CAST

John Bews (Jay Perkins), Ben Brown (Standby), Mateo Chavez Lewis (Jerry Lee Lewis), Jay Clift (Sam Phillips), Nick Fontaine (W.S "Fluke" Holland), Felix LeBlanc (Carl Perkins), Emma Pedersen (Dyanne), Stephen Thakkar (Elvis Presley), Tanner Zerr (Johnny Cash)

CREATIVE TEAM



High-resolution images at artsclub.com/media (username: journalist; password: photos4media)

Bobby Garcia (Director), Nicol Spinola (Choreographer), Mary Ancheta (Musical Director), Patrick Rizzotti (Set Designer), Alaia Hamer (Costume Designer), Itai Erdal (Lighting Designer), Joel Grinke (Video Designer), Kyra Soko (Sound Designer), Anjela Magpantay (Assistant Director), Pamela Jakobs (Stage Manager), Ronaye Haynes (Assistant 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, July 11, 7:30 PM VocalEye Performances: Tue, July 18, 7:30 PM; Fri, July 21, 8 PM

SPONSORS

Presenting Sponsor: Odlum Brown Season Sponsors: BMO, CMHC Granville Island, CTV, IA Financial Group, Sandman Hotels, Inns & Suites, Vancouver Sun

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>xwmə0kwəyəm</u> (Musqueam), <u>Skwxwú7mesh</u> (Squamish), and <u>Selílwitulh</u> (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We are honoured to live, work, and create on this land together.

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.

MEDIA CONTACT

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