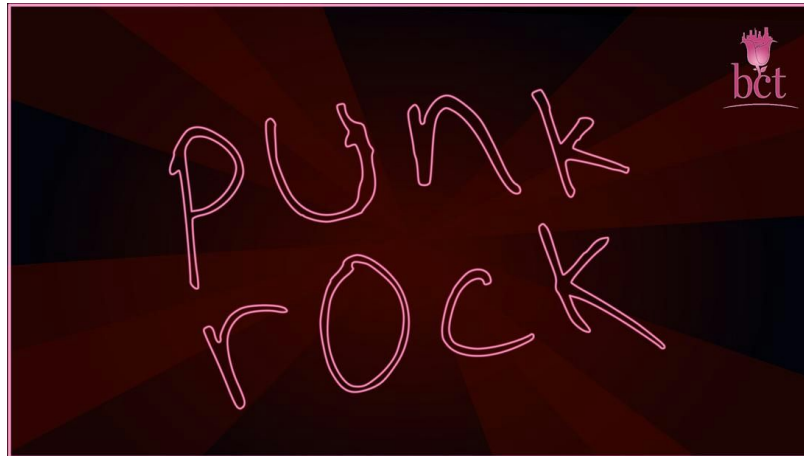


Beautiful City Theatre presents



The Canadian Premiere of  
**PUNK ROCK**  
MAY 5-7 & 10-14, 2016  
7:30PM  
AT CENTAUR THEATRE

For immediate release.

(Montreal – March 15, 2016) – **Beautiful City Theatre** presents **PUNK ROCK**, the Canadian Premiere of Simon Stephens' beautiful and haunting play, opening May 6<sup>th</sup> and running for a total of 8 performances at Centaur Theatre (453 rue St. François-Xavier). Following a preview performance on May 5<sup>th</sup>, the show will run from **May 6-7<sup>th</sup>** and **May 10-14<sup>th</sup>**. All performances will begin at **7:30PM**. Each performance will be followed by a talk-back discussion with the director, cast, and members of the production team. The discussion will focus on themes of bullying and empathy.

**PUNK ROCK** takes place in a private school library where seven high school students are preparing for exams. Tension builds among the students as they delve into their adolescent angst, repressed feelings, and unrequited love. Inspired by the Columbine shooting in 1999, **PUNK ROCK** forces us to confront the reality of school violence. The play asks us to consider how this violence comes about, and the deep impacts that bullying can have on individual students and the entire student body.

**Beautiful City Theatre's** production of **PUNK ROCK** is directed by BCT's Artistic Director, **Calli Armstrong**, and produced by Artistic Producer **Natalie Gershtein**. The production will focus on an examination of empathy. More specifically, this show will demonstrate the consequences of a lack of empathy and will include collective creations (performance pieces involving masks, music, and movement), developed by the cast and creative team, which explore this theme.

The show features a cast of performers from the Montreal area. Montreal is a city that knows first-hand the cost of violence in schools. Given the history of this city and the widespread tragedy of mass shootings, this play is a timely and necessary consideration of relationships and empathy. It allows us to reflect on our own experiences and contemplate how to move forward.

**PUNK ROCK** originally opened at the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester, England in 2009, directed by Sarah Frankcom to overwhelmingly positive reviews. Small productions of **PUNK ROCK** have been mounted several times since in the U.K., and **PUNK ROCK** was recently produced in New York as part of MCC's season in 2014-2015, racking up two Lucile Lortel Award nominations. BCT is proud to produce the very first Canadian production of this gripping show in Montreal.

### **About the Playwright**

Simon Stephens is best known for his adaptation of Mark Haddon's novel, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* which opened on Broadway in October 2014 and swept the 2015 awards season winning 5 Tony Awards, 6 Drama Desk Awards, 5 Outer Critics Circle Awards, and a Drama League Award. Other recent works include *Heisenberg* (2015, New York City Center), *Song From Far Away* (2015, Young Vic), *The Cherry Orchard* (2014, Young Vic), *Blindsided* (2014, Royal Exchange Theatre), and *Birdland* (2014, Royal Court Theatre).

### **About Beautiful City Theatre**

**BCT** is an independent not-for-profit group residing in Montreal. **BCT's** goal is to create and celebrate community through the sharing and exploration of theatre processes and the performance of theatre productions. **BCT** engages with projects, pieces, and events which challenge and enrich its participants' understanding of relationships and humanity, and which build an appreciation for theatre and theatre processes. **BCT** aims to create a rich and challenging learning environment for artists through the intentional use of relationship and ensemble focused experiential work.

### **PUNK ROCK**

#### **By Simon Stephens**

Thursday, May 5, 2016 – 7:30 (\$15 PREVIEW PERFORMANCE)

Friday, May 6, 2016 – 7:30pm

Saturday, May 7, 2016 – 7:30pm

Tuesday, May 10, 2016 – 7:30pm

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 – 7:30pm

Thursday, May 12, 2016 – 7:30pm

Friday, May 13, 2016 – 7:30pm

Saturday, May 14, 2016 – 7:30pm

Centaur Theatre

453 Rue Saint-François-Xavier, Montreal, QC

### **Tickets**

\$35 Adults

\$25 Seniors/QDF/Equity Members

\$20 Students

### **Cast**

WILLIAM CARLISLE: Oliver Price

BENNETT FRANCIS: Nicholas LePage

CHADWICK MEADE: Patrick Park

LILY CAHILL: Rebecca Bauer

CISSY FRANKS: Madeline Harvey

NICHOLAS CHATMAN: Ryan Doherty

TANYA GLEASON: Victoria Hall

DR. RICHARD HARVEY: Saro Saroyan

**Production Team**

Producer: Natalie Gershtein  
Director: Calli Armstrong  
Production Manager: Todd Hirtle  
Stage Manager: Melissa Kay Langille  
Set Designer: Holly Hilts  
Lighting Designer: Hannah Kirby  
Costume Designer: Carlan Lonsdale  
Sound Designer: Marc-Antoine Legault  
Props & Design Team: Jeanne Elizabeth Vachon  
Graphic Design: Deniz Kepenek  
Assistant Producer: Jami Price  
Production Assistant: Stephanie Weiner

More information at [www.beautifulcitytheatre.com](http://www.beautifulcitytheatre.com)

Tickets at [www.centaurtheatre.com](http://www.centaurtheatre.com) or 514-288-3161

\$35 General Admission / \$25 Seniors, QDF & Equity members / \$20 Students.

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