



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ArtsWest Announces *Snowed In*, a New Holiday Musical

SEATTLE, WA (Wednesday, October 25, 2023) – This holiday season, ArtsWest will present the world premiere of *Snowed In*, a new holiday musical by Corinne Park-Buffelen and ArtsWest Artistic Director Mathew Wright. Directed by **Kelly Kitchens** (*Mrs. Caliban*, Book-It Repertory Theatre) and featuring beloved Seattle musical theater stars **Rachel Guyer-Mafune** (ACT's *The Wolves*), **Christian Quinto** (Village Theatre's *Mamma Mia*), **Sarah Russell** (Seattle Rep's *Lydia and the Troll*) and **Nik Hagen** (The 5th Avenue Theatre's *Sweeney Todd*), *Snowed In* performs at ArtsWest from November 29 through December 23. Tickets are available online at artswest.org, or by phone at (206) 938.0963.

In this fast-paced musical comedy, four musical theater stars (and best friends) are commissioned by ArtsWest to write the most magical, fabulous, fantastic holiday musical of all time. The only problem is they open tomorrow night and all they have is the opening number. When they get snowed in with no escape, a cozy mountain cabin retreat becomes a drama-filled pressure cooker. Will they finish the show and make it to the stage on time?

Writers Park-Buffelen and Wright have aimed to create a holiday musical that speaks to the now. This production takes all the best elements from vintage holiday TV specials, SNL, the Rockettes and old Hollywood and mixes in the humor, voice, and reality of 2023. Co-creator Corinne Park-Buffelen remarks, "The magic of this production is that at the heart of the show, we have cast four real-life friends who have never had the opportunity to take the stage together. Mathew and I had the pleasure of writing a show around their incredible talent and chemistry. The holidays are about spending time with people that you love, and we have built that into the show by forming this incredible production team and extend that to welcoming our audiences."

Snowed In features holiday classics alongside original music by Rich Gray (*Forbidden XMas*), Corinne Park-Buffelen, and David Taylor Gomes (*Ranked, A Musical*) with additional musical arrangements by Aaron Norman and Riley Brule, and choreography by Shadou Mintrone (*The Can Can*). This brand-new musical will have you dancing and singing along with the cast.

ArtsWest will present *Snowed In*, Wednesday through Saturday at 7:30pm and Sundays at 3pm.

Cast

Rachel Guyer-Mafune as herself

Nik Hagen as himself

Christian Quinto as himself

Sarah Russell as herself

Creative Team

Directed by – Kelly Kitchens

Rehearsal Stage Manager – Christopher Kehoe

Performance Stage Manager – Leila Chung

Music Director – David Taylor Gomes

Associate Music Director / Piano Conductor – Riley Brule

Additional Musical Arrangements – Aaron Norman

Choreographer – Shadou Mintrone

Lighting Designer – Trevor Cushman

Costume Designer – Jae Hee Kim

Scenic Designer – Brandon Riel

Sound Designer – Spencer Behm

Props Master – Adaire MacCormack

Scenic Charge Artist – Bella Rivera

Board Operator – Daisy Bower

Sound Technician – Conor Fortner

About the Production

Snowed In, a new holiday musical by Corinne Park-Buffelen & Mathew Wright with music by Rich Gray, Corinne Park-Buffelen, and David Taylor Gomes plays November 30th – December 23rd, 2023 at ArtsWest Playhouse and Gallery (4711 California Ave SW, Seattle WA 98116). Tickets (ranging from \$15 - \$45) may be purchased online at www.artswest.org, by phone at 206.938.0339, or at the Box Office Thurs. - Sat. 2:00 - 7:00pm, Sundays 11:00 am-3:00 pm.

About ArtsWest

ArtsWest is a vibrant center for both theater and visual arts located in the West Seattle Junction. This 149-seat theatre provides a unique setting for audiences and artists as stories of human emotion unfold in an intimate space. Winner of the American Theatre Wing's National Theatre Company Award, and winner of multiple Gregory Awards, ArtsWest has produced work by such varied playwrights as Dominique Morisseau, Henrik Ibsen, Annie Baker, Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Taylor Mac, and David Henry Huang. ArtsWest produces artistic events that provoke conversation, incite the imagination, and use live theater as a powerful agent of change. www.artswest.org