



World Premiere of new Nova Scotia play opening at Neptune

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Halifax, NS – March 6, 2018 – The next production to open at Neptune Theatre is the world premiere of the Nova Scotia play *Half-Cracked: The Legend of Sugar Mary*. Written by actor, director and playwright **Mary-Colin Chisholm**, this quirky, unique and hilarious comedy stars **Sharleen Kalayil, Christian Murray** and **Geneviève Steele** and opens on the Scotiabank Stage March 13.

When Scott's car breaks down at the foot of Sugar Mary's driveway, the folklorist finds himself amidst a pair of spinster sisters with a knack for weaving truth into fiction. Hanging off of every word, Scott soon becomes the object of Sugar Mary's affection, much to the dismay of her fiercely protective sister Yewina.

"This unique and hilarious show features three unforgettable characters who explore the fine tradition of Maritime storytelling," said director **Martha Irving**. "They dance a fine line between reality and fiction – sometimes literally. It has been such a joy working with these three incredible performers who own their roles. We've been having such fun in rehearsals! Sometimes I laugh till I cry."

Half-Cracked: The Legend of Sugar Mary was originally work-shopped as a staged reading through LunaSea Theatre's The Furnace New Play initiative before a second staged reading at Eastern Front Theatre's STAGES festival in 2016.

"It is rare to just know when a play is going to be a hit. This new comedy from Mary-Colin Chisholm gave me all the right feelings when it was part of EFT's STAGES Festival, which I was in charge of at the time," said Neptune's new Artistic Director, Jeremy Webb. "Imagine my delight when I got this new job and found *Half-Cracked* programmed and waiting for me. I feel like it's my destiny to be involved with this first full production of this quirky, funny play and I'm not fighting that one bit."

The play is directed by **Martha Irving** with Assistant Director **Jacob Planinc**. The creative team includes **Holly Car**, Scenic Artist; **Garrett Barker**, Set Designer; **Jordyn Bochon**, Costume Designer; **June Zinck**, Sound Designer; **Ingrid Risk**, Lighting Designer and Stage Manager; and **Ryanne Chisholm**, Choreographer.

Half-Cracked: The Legend of Sugar Mary is sponsored by Scotiabank and Telus.

The first performance of *Half-Cracked: The Legend of Sugar Mary* is the Bell Aliant **Pay What You Can** performance on Tuesday, March 13 with previews continuing Wednesday, March 14. Opening night is Thursday, March 15 and appropriately, the show runs until Sunday, April 1.

Tickets can be purchased online at neptunetheatre.com, by phone at 902-429-7070 or toll-free 1-800-565-7345, or in person at the Box Office, 1593 Argyle Street. Find out more about Neptune Theatre on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube channel NeptuneHFX.

Now in its 55th Season, Neptune Theatre inspires audiences with great stories. Located at 1593 Argyle Street, Neptune boasts two newly renovated stages: Fountain Hall and the Scotiabank Stage, plus a year-round Theatre School and a province-wide Young Neptune Company Tour.

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Media Contact: Michael Browne

mbrowne@neptunetheatre.com

902-494-8465