



vancouver new music
For immediate release

23 March 2010

Vancouver New Music
in association with **Western Front New Music** presents
STITCH
an **Urban Vessel Production (Toronto)**

Friday, April 30, 2010 – 8PM

Saturday, May 1, 2010 – 4PM + 8PM

EDAM Studio, 303 East 8th Avenue

Tickets \$20 regular, \$15 student/senior available from Tickets Tonight
(ticketstonight.ca/604.684.2787, surcharges apply) and at the door

Music by **Juliet Palmer**, text by **Anna Chatterton**, directed by **Ruth Madoc-Jones**, movement by **Marie-Josée Chartier**. Performed by **Neema Bickersteth, Christine Duncan, & Patricia O’Callaghan**

A musical theatre performance anchored in the sounds and rhythms of sewing, **Stitch** uncovers the emotional layers of the relationship between woman and barely-tamed machine.

For more details go to www.newmusic.org

From the abuse of the sweatshop to the fantasy of costume and the empowerment of sewing-it-yourself, the sewing machine has been a force for liberation and exploitation since its invention in the 19th century. Anchored in the sounds and rhythms of sewing, **Stitch** uncovers the emotional layers of the relationship between woman and barely-tamed machine.

Hemmed in by the language of sewing and the inexorable rhythm of the machine, three women fight to find space for imagination and individuality. From the sweet 3-part stylings of “Cowl-neck Blues” to the fierce interlocked minimalism of “Chain stitch, Lock stitch, Whip stitch”, **Stitch** gives voice to the unseen women who clothe us.

These performances will also feature a companion piece created specially by community members to accompany the Vancouver presentation of Stitch.

Stitch received two Dora nominations in 2008. In the Opera Division **Stitch** was nominated for **Outstanding Production**, and in the General Theatre Division composer **Juliet Palmer** and writer **Anna Chatterton** were nominated for **Outstanding New Musical/Opera**.

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Stitch's premiere run was a co-production of **urbanvessel** and **The Theatre Centre** presented by **The FreeFall Festival** in partnership with **Harbourfront Centre's World Stage**, March 12-16, 2008 at **Lennox Contemporary**, Toronto.

Stitch was developed in residence at The Theatre Centre and funded by The Ontario Arts Council, The Toronto Arts Council, and The Canada Council for the Arts.

Music Juliet Palmer | Text Anna Chatterton | Direction Ruth Madoc-Jones | Movement Marie-Josée Chartier | Set and Costume Sarah Armstrong | Lighting Kimberly Purtell | Special effects design Jim Ruxton | Production Stage Manager Shauna Japp

Performed by Christine Duncan, Patricia O'Callaghan & Neema Bickersteth

Single tickets are \$20 regular, \$15 student/senior and are available from Tickets Tonight (ticketstonight.ca /604.684.2787, surcharges apply) and at the door.

Vancouver New Music gratefully acknowledges the support of The Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage through Arts Presentation Canada, The British Columbia Arts Council, the Province of British Columbia through the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, the City of Vancouver through the Office of Cultural Affairs, the Holiday Inn Downtown, Tom Lee Music, the Georgia Straight and Eponymous.

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