

Media Release 06/09/17 Arts & Entertainment: Aenigma Theatre and Bright Young Theatre present: **VIVA** by Scott Button at **The Havana** | October 14th - 21st at 8pm. October 15th, 21st and 22nd at 2pm. NO SHOW on October 16th. Pay-What-You-Can Preview on the 12th and 13th | Tickets: \$22 Regular and \$18 Student | Purchase tickets online at <https://tickets.theatrewire.com/shows/viva/events> or at the Door | Media Contact: Tanya Mathivanan, 778-997-0195, terra.vanan@hotmail.com

Aenigma Theatre And Bright Young Theatre Present VIVA by Scott Button

Two Strangers, Two Stories, One City, and One Fateful Night that will change both of their lives forever. Alice and Graeme are two very different people whose lives have been shaped by tragedy. Graeme is running from the memory of his missing sister, while Alice is struggling to save the life of her dying brother. Their very different paths, however, lead them both to Vegas: Sin City, The City of Lights, where anything is possible. Over the course of a night, Alice, Graeme, an illegal organ, a prostitute who might be a long lost sister, and the underground world of the homeless come crashing together in a prodigious stroke of chance. Or could it be fate? This October, witness the World Premiere of a beautifully poetic and breathtakingly visceral journey, where two people in extreme situations are forced to question the lengths to which they are willing to go in the name of love.

VIVA is an original play by Vancouver Playwright Scott Button. This world premiere is being presented as a Co-Production by Aenigma Theatre and Bright Young Theatre at the Havana on Commercial Drive. A First production of an Experimental work, VIVA is a lyrical duologue that eventually transcends its boundaries and evolves into a far more complex theatrical experience. Prepare to confront the boundaries of morality and to be forced to re-examine your societal judgements as VIVA guides you through a hyper-realistic, ontological examination of love, loss, and the human capacity for extraordinary actions, both beautiful, terrible, as well as in-between.

This stunning production features a number of up-and-coming Vancouver-based and international artists. The cast consists of Bright Young Theatre's Co-Artistic Director Melanie Reich (*Crimes of the Heart, Problem Child/End of Civilization*) as "Alice", and Aenigma Alum Patrick Dodd (*Sense and Sensibility, RED*) as "Graeme". The production team includes: Co-Artistic Director of Aenigma Theatre, Sarah Melo, creating the Set, Alix Miller designing the Costumes, Chengyan Boon doing the Lights, and two-time Jessie Nominee Scott Zechner designing Sound. It is being Stage Managed by Javier Sotres and is directed by Tanya Mathivanan.

Aenigma theatre was founded by Tanya Mathivanan in 2013 with the belief that, in many ways, people are all enigmas, to each other as well as to themselves. Tanya's diagnosis of Fibromyalgia at the age of 15 amplified her interest in exploring the complexities of the human condition. Together with Co-Artistic Director, Sarah Melo, and a team of talented designers, Aenigma Theatre seeks to engage the community emotionally and intellectually by applying its unique aesthetic to challenging, relevant plays.

Bright Young Theatre was formed in 2012 by Christine Bortolin, Jordan Kerbs, Melanie Reich, Joanna Williams and Ashley Noyes. They seek to engage the community but producing relevant scripts with a focus on rich and complex female characters.

The Havana | 1212 Commercial Dr, Vancouver | October 14th to 21st at 8pm. October 15th, 21st, 22nd at 2pm. NO SHOW on October 16th | Pay-What-You-Can Preview on the 12th and 13th | Tickets \$22 Regular; \$18 Student | **Purchase tickets online** at <https://tickets.theatrewire.com/shows/viva/events> or at the Door |

Email aenigmatheatre@gmail.com for more information | www.aenigmatheatre.com

Media Contact: Tanya Mathivanan, 778-997-0195, terra.vanan@hotmail.com