



**LUNCHBOX**  
THEATRE

# Media Release

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**Lunchbox Theatre is proud to welcome the whimsical and musical love story *Countries Shaped Like Stars*. Tickets on sale now.**

A LOVE STORY BEST HEARD THROUGH A TIN CAN TELEPHONE

**CALGARY, AB – March 6, 2023** — Lunchbox Theatre's spring production of musical play ***Countries Shaped Like Stars*** is sure to put a spring in your step and warm your heart. **Created by Emily Pearlman and Nick Di Gaetano**, this fun and whimsical play is a co-production with Forte Musical Theatre Guild. The play features Anna Dalglish & Tiffany Thomas! The show will be live and in-person in the Studio Theatre at Vertigo. This production will preview on March 21 and 22, and will run until April 8, 2023. The official opening show is on March 23.

Tickets are on sale now, range in price from \$21-\$31 per performance, and can be purchased at [LunchboxTheatre.com](http://LunchboxTheatre.com).

***Countries Shaped Like Stars*** is an award-winning play with music, with multiple Prix Rideau Awards as well as nods from both the Edmonton and Ottawa Fringe Festivals. The original Production was also featured in One Yellow Rabbit's High Performance Rodeo in 2017.

**Bronwyn Steinberg, Lunchbox Theatre Artistic Director:**

"This whimsical, musical fairy tale is one that I have loved for years. Created by Nicolas di Gaetano and Emily Pearlman, it was a runaway hit when I first saw it at the Ottawa Fringe Festival. Over the last ten years or so, Emily and Nick have toured this piece all over Canada and internationally, and it has even been translated into French. I'm so excited to see the magic that our Calgary-based team of artists will create as they take on this inventive and playful script."

**Kathryn Smith, *Countries Shaped Like Stars* Director:**

"This show is for those who love music, storytelling, and using their imagination. So I think with that in mind, it's for everyone. This style of theatre and storytelling is so unique and must be experienced in a live performance context. It invites us to imagine and exist with the characters: the show begins as soon as you arrive to the theatre and doesn't end until you leave."

"I'm so thrilled to infuse the piece with the spirits and aesthetic of our team. We have an eclectic group of artists working on the show, and we have brought new curves and beauty to this beloved piece."

**Synopsis:**

A musical love story for adults, teens and precocious children, Gwendolyn Magnificent and Bartholomew Spectacular use a tin-can telephone to share their whimsical story. The performance begins with demanding dragon fruits and ends with heartache whispered into the ears of birds and constellations. With spoons, water glasses, whirly-winds and a mandolin, the performers create the sounds and images of a landscape forever altered by two people coming together and falling apart. A new production of this fun and charming multi-award-winning musical play featuring Calgary artists.

*Countries Shaped Like Stars* will be performed by Anna Dalglish & Tiffany Thomas.

The creative team for *Countries Shaped Like Stars* includes Kathryn Smith (director and co-musical director), Anton deGroot (set design), Jolane Houle (costume design), Lisa Floyd (lighting design), Miranda Martini (co-musical director), Ashley Rees (stage manager), Caaryn Sadoway (apprentice stage manager).

### **Masked Performances – March 28 and April 4**

Our priority is providing a safe environment for our patrons, staff, volunteers and artists. In an effort to support the comfort levels of all our guests, Lunchbox Theatre has made the decision to offer select Masked Performances this season. This decision was made to address the accommodations requested by some of our patrons, either for preference or personal health reasons.

We hope this option gives reassurance of Lunchbox Theatre's support of all our patrons, and ask that all in attendance respect these special accommodations for these performances. The masked performances for *Countries Shaped Like Stars* will be at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28 and April 4.

### **Relaxed & Audio Described Performance – March 26**

Lunchbox is partnering again with Inside Out Theatre with their [Good Host program](#) to provide a Relaxed and Audio Described performance of *Countries Shaped Like Stars* on Sunday, March 26 at 12 p.m..

A relaxed environment is a great way to introduce kids to theatre without the classic theatre etiquette, allowing for more wiggling and giggling. We suggest this show for 12+ but if you have a child younger than that, then this performance is an option for families.

Open audio description is integrated into the production, so all performances are accessible for blind and visually impaired audience members.

***Note: All reviewers need to book complimentary tickets for the 1st week of the run. No exceptions.***

### **About Lunchbox Theatre**

*Lunchbox Theatre presents an enriching and engaging theatre experience with an emphasis on accessibility for audiences and artists. We create and produce one-act plays primarily at noon, focusing on entertaining new Canadian works that examine and explore socially relevant issues. The theatre seeks to provide rewarding and memorable experiences to its audiences, casts, and supporters by delving into a variety of works that reflect our audience and their particular world,*

*as well as works that will offer fresh experiences and new understandings. Lunchbox is a hub for artistic development—for artists as well as plays, with emerging artists working alongside established professionals.*

*For ticket and season pass information, please visit [lunchboxtheatre.com](http://lunchboxtheatre.com)  
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