



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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History Theatre announces cast of *I Am Betty* Opening November 25

What: *I Am Betty*

Where: History Theatre, 30 E. 10th Street, St. Paul

When: Nov 25-Dec 23, 2023. Preview Nov 24.

Contact: 651-292-4323; HistoryTheatre.com

SAINT PAUL, MN – History Theatre is excited to present the world premiere musical *I Am Betty*, the perfect recipe for holiday fun this year! You'll catch yourself humming the memorable music from this world-premiere production by Denise Prosek and Cristina Luzárraga and leave inspired to go home to bake something new!

Betty Crocker has helped shape America's homes and appetites for over a century. Surprising to many, she was not a real person! Betty was cooked up in Minnesota, so it feels only right to tell "her" story here at History Theatre" says Luzárraga (Book and Lyrics). Directed by Maija García, *I Am Betty* runs Nov 25- Dec 23, 2023. All tickets are on sale now.

As a radio and television personality, a letter-writing confidante, and a relatable icon, "Betty" has been there as multiple generations have grappled with questions of women's role in American society. When asked about the importance of this production, Denise Prosek (Music and Lyrics) says, "*I Am Betty* shows the resilience, ingenuity, and impact made by the women who embodied and were influenced by Betty Crocker."

Director Maija García, who also directed *I Am Betty* for the Raw Stages reading this past January, is looking forward to sharing this story with audiences. "This musical is layered - like a cake! It holds a wide range of stories, perspectives and experiences that will allow our audiences to both relate - and to expand their world view as well. Betty belongs to all of us."

The cast features **Camryn Buelow** (*HT Debut*), **Erin Capello** (*The Christmas Schooner and A Servants Christmas*), **Tiffany Cooper** (*HT Debut*), **Lynnea Doublette** (*Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story, Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*), **Anna Hashizume** (*HT Debut*), **Jennifer Grimm** (*HT Debut*), **Olivia Kemp** (*HT Debut*), **Kiko Laureano** (*Runestone! A Rock Musical*), and **Ruthie Baker McGrath** (*Glensheen, Christmas of Swing, Sisters of Swing*).

The creative team includes **Cristina Luzárraga** (Playwright), **Denise Prosek** (Composer), **Maija García** (Director), **Renee Guittar** (Choreographer), **Sonja Thompson** (Music Director), **Jason Hansen** (Arranger),

Sarah Bahr (Scenic Designer), **Ursula Bowden** (Props Designer), **Sarah Bahr** (Costume Designer), **Karin Olson** (Lighting Designer), **C Andrew Mayer** (Sound Designer), **Leslie Ritenour** (Video Designer), **Lee Johnson** (Stage Manager), **Jaya Robillard** (Asst. Stage Manager), **Gunther Gullickson** (Technical Director), **Zach Morgan** (Lead Carpenter), **Nick Walberg** (Master Electrician), and **Meghan Kent** (Costume Assistant).

Understudies: Idman Adan, Gabrielle Dominique, Jenessa Iverson, Xan Mattek, Dariana Perez

Musicians: Chris Smith (Bass), Kyle Baker (Guitar), Josh Carlson (Drums).

Submit your holiday memories: The kitchen is a wonderful place to remember holiday memories and make new and favorite recipes. The sights and smells can create treasured experiences for people of all ages. This is your chance to be a part of the History Theatre's Holiday Cookbook. Send us your holiday recipes, stories, traditions, and photos by November 13. Learn more: www.historytheatre.com/2023-2024/i-am-betty

Ticket Information

Tiers 1-4: \$43-74 (discounts available for seniors). **Tier 5:** \$30. Additional discounts available for students and patrons under 30 (must call to purchase, ID required at pick up). For tickets call 651-292-4323 or visit www.historytheatre.com. Discount rates for groups of 10 or more. Call 651-292-4320 or email groups@historytheatre.com to book a group.

Pay What You Can Preview performance: November 24, 7:30pm. Pre-reserve for \$20 or PWYC at the door. Cash and credit accepted.

Afterthoughts held following Sunday Matinees

Nov 26, Dec 3, 10, and 17. Free and open to all ticketed patrons get closer to the story on stage with a lively post-show talkback. Guest Speakers TBA.

Accessibility at History Theatre

History Theatre strives to make all events accessible to all patrons. When purchasing tickets please alert the box office of any accommodation or assistance needed. Accessibility offerings include hearing enhancement receivers, seating for patrons with wheelchairs and their companions, accessible restrooms, Entrance on Cedar St., and elevator right to the theatre level for easy access. Contact the box office at 651-292-4323 for more information. www.historytheatre.com/box-office/accessibility

- **American Sign Language and Audio Description:** Sunday, December 10, 2:00 p.m.
- **Open Captioning:** Saturday, December 16, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 17, 2:00 p.m.

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History Theatre Mission: History Theatre entertains, educates, and engages through creating, developing, and producing new and existing works that explore Minnesota's past and the diverse American experience. Its work provides a unique lens which links our past to the present, explores our common heritage, and illuminates our understanding of what it means to be American.

www.historytheatre.com

Land Acknowledgement: History Theatre sits on the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary land of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, and political significance. We recognize and honor the Dakota people, ancestors, and descendants, as well as the land itself, and all the sovereign Native nations in Minnesota and beyond. We recognize that this acknowledgement itself is not enough, and only serves as a first step towards decolonization.