



August 24, 2015

FOR MORE INFO, PHOTOS, INTERVIEWS

PLEASE CONTACT: TERESA TROVATO, PUBLICIST

PHONE: 604.897.1939 | EMAIL: teresatrovato@gmail.com

The Cultch presents

Are We Cool Now?

Presented with Western Canada Theatre (Kamloops)

WHEN: September 29 – October 10, 2015

Preview: September 29, 8:00pm

Opening: September 30, 8:00pm

Performance Times: October 1-4 & 6-10, 8:00pm

Matinees: October 3, 4, & 10, 2:00pm

WHERE: HISTORIC THEATRE AT THE CULTCH

1895 Venables Street, Vancouver, BC

TICKETS: Tickets from \$20

On sale now at The Cultch's Box Office, by phone at 604.251.1363, or online at

www.thecultch.com

ADDED VALUE: Enjoy a lively post-show Q&A on October 1 & 6

(Vancouver, BC) – ***Are We Cool Now?*** is an indie rock road trip inspired by and featuring the songs of Vancouver's own indie rock darling, Dan Mangan. A couple sets out on a road trip, but getting away from it all causes them to reflect on their place in the world and with each other.

An innovative rock music/theatre fusion written by Amiel Gladstone (*A Craigslist Cantata*, *Cinderella: An East Van Panto!*), ***Are We Cool Now?*** is a unique and intimate musical exploration of contemporary relationships, full of humour, heartache and insight.

"It's an indie rock musical about life and love in your 20's and Dan Mangan's music provides the backdrop," says Gladstone. "I've always been curious about how to get the music we listen to every day on to the stage. Dan and I knew each other and I really liked his music. We looked for a narrative in Dan's music and found themes of love, longing, nostalgia and road trips and ***Are We Cool Now?*** was born."

Produced by Western Canada Theatre, ***Are We Cool Now?*** combines the talents of actor-musicians Penelope Corrin (*Royal Canadian Air Farce*, *My Narrator*) and Ben Elliott (*The Comedy of Errors*, *Broken Sex Doll*) and features Anton Lipovetsky (*Broken Sex Doll*, *Elbow Room Cafe: The Musical*) on guitar and bass, Said The Whale's Spencer Schoening on percussion, and music and lyrics - including one new song - by JUNO Award-winning Dan Mangan.

“I trusted Amiel to make theatre out of my sad songs because I saw *A Craigslist Cantata* and thought it was fantastic,” says Mangan. “I haven’t really been a part of the development process, so I have to say I’m pretty curious to see the result. Above all, I’m honoured that he trusts the work enough to believe it can transcend a narrative form.”

***Are We Cool Now?* is written by Amiel Gladstone**

Music and lyrics: Dan Mangan

Starring: Penelope Corrin and Ben Elliott

Director: Amiel Gladstone

Arranger and Music Director: Ben Elliott

Set and Lighting Designer: Lauchlin Johnston

Costume Designer: Cindy Wiebe

Musical Consultant: Veda Hille

Stage Manager: Lucy Pratt-Johnson

About The Cultch:

Now in its 42nd season, The Cultch has been one of Vancouver's most diverse and innovative arts and cultural institutions, offering dynamic programming in contemporary theatre, dance, and music by local, national, and international artists. Today, The Cultch continues to enrich the social and cultural life of Vancouver by bringing world-class cultural presentations to the public, supporting the growth of emerging artists and companies, and facilitating dialogue between groups in the Lower Mainland, especially within our local community of East Vancouver.

The Cultch is so much more than just a theatre in the physical sense – our organization is looked upon as one of the foremost performing arts presenters in the country. Widely recognized as an innovator and leader, we have played an integral role in the development of British Columbia’s artistic landscape. www.thcultch.com

About Western Canada Theatre:

For 40 years, Western Canada Theatre, the largest professional company in the interior of BC, has been bringing the best in theatre to audiences in the Kamloops region and throughout Canada. A vibrant regional theatre, WCT has a broad-based approach to programming, while representing the cultural mosaic we live in, with a particular focus on the First Nations of our region. WCT has a strong commitment to the production and development of new Canadian works, as well as a dedication to providing education in the arts. Although a mid-size theatre in a small city, we have earned a strong national reputation. www.wctlive.ca