

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 6, 2014

Details: <http://www.showtunestheatre.org/>

Tickets: <http://www.showtunestheatre.org/how-to/>

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***High Society* A Sparkling Concert Musical at Benaroya Hall. Savor Cole Porter's Infectious Tunes.**

Two Performances; March 29 – 30, 2014 in the Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall

SEATTLE, WA—SHOWTUNES Theatre Company stages a sparkling Spring concert version of Cole Porter's ***High Society*** at Benaroya Hall on March 29 (8pm) and 30 (2pm). ***High Society*** is based on the play *The Philadelphia Story* by Philip Barry which later inspired a 1956 MGM movie musical *High Society* starring Grace Kelly, Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra. A stage musical version of ***High Society*** opened on Broadway in 1998 with a book by Arthur Kopit. It features the beautiful Cole Porter tunes, "Ridin' High," "Just One of Those Things," "Let's Misbehave," "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" and "It's All Right With Me" with additional lyrics by Susan Birkenhead.

This bubbling musical takes us back to the 1930s as wealthy Long Island socialite Tracy Lord is planning her lavish summer wedding to George when her ex-husband Dexter turns up and disrupts the proceedings. Complications for the festivities include a philandering father, an overwhelmed mother and a nosy magazine reporter and photographer trying to get an exclusive scoop. This "swell" party of a show marks the 24th production for **SHOWTUNES Theatre Company**.

With fourteen years under their belts, **SHOWTUNES** produces concert versions of countless unsung American musical theatre gems. This upcoming production will be the fourth concert in a row presented at Benaroya Hall's acoustically rich yet intimate Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall. A cast of talented local musical theatre professionals, with scripts in hand, will use minimal staging props and costumes to bring the original book and score of Cole Porter's delicious ***High Society*** to life. **David Hunter Koch** directs and **Mark Rabe** serves as music director.

The cast includes: **Danielle Barnum** (Tracy Lord), **Jared Michael Brown** (Dexter Haven), **Matt Giles** (Mike Connor), **John X. Deveney** (Uncle Willy), **Katherine Strohmaier** (Liz Imbrie), **Matthew Posner** (George Kittredge), **Analiese Guettinger** (Dinah Lord), **Valerie Piacenti** (Margaret Lord), and **Paul Klein** (Seth Lord) with **Mallory King**, **Marissa Ryder** and **Mike Spee** rounding out the Ensemble.

Performances are Saturday March 29th at 8:00 pm and Sunday March 30th at 2 pm. Tickets are \$31 - \$46. Student and Senior tickets are \$21. Tickets are available online at SHOWTUNESTheatre.org, over the

phone at (206) 215-4747 or in person at the Benaroya Hall ticket office on the corner of Third Avenue and Union Street. Ticket Office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; and Saturday, 1 p.m.–6 p.m.

Phone interviews and in person appearances are available by contacting Jennifer Rice at 206-285-5175.

About SHOWTUNES Theatre Company

Based in Seattle and founded in 1999, SHOWTUNES creates concert versions of many unsung American musical theater gems. Led by Broadway veteran Martin Charnin (Artistic Director) and company founder Maggie Stenson Pehrson (Executive Producer), the company currently presents a two-concert season at Seattle's stunning Benaroya Hall. Pulling from the vast array of musical theatre talent in the area, SHOWTUNES has staged 23 productions and will announce their 2014-2015 Benaroya Hall Season this April.

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