



Next Stage Theatre Festival presents
TITA JOKES
The Spice Girls of Comedy - with a Filipina Twist
January 8 - 19, 2020 at Factory Theatre

After a massively successful run at the 2019 Toronto Fringe Festival, **Tita Collective** will present an extended version of their award winning show **Tita Jokes**, as part of the 2020 Next Stage Theatre Festival January 8 - 19, 2020 at Factory Theatre Mainspace.

Tita Collective, an all Filipina collective of multidisciplinary artists, won Patron's Pick and the Second City Outstanding New Comedy Award for **Tita Jokes** at Toronto Fringe. **Tita Jokes** is a musical comedy spectacle to remember. The show is a love letter to the strong Filipinas in their lives; their mothers, sisters, aunts, grandmothers and friends. **Tita Jokes** is about the different ways titas show their love and affection, and how they move past their struggles and heartaches through comedy and songs.

Directed by **Tricia Hagoriles**, **Tita Jokes** is created and performed by **Ann Paula Bautista**, **Belinda Corpuz**, **Isabel Kanaan**, **Ellie Posadas**, **Alia Rasul**, and **Maricris Rivera**. The Music Director is **Ayaka Kinugawa**, with Stage Manager **Justine Cargo**, Choreographer **Chantelle Mostacho** and animation by **Solis Animation**.

Tita Collective is now a six member collective featuring Ann Paula Bautista (Disenchanted US Tour), Belinda Corpuz (Prairie Nurse), Isabel Kanaan (CBC's Air Farce), Alia Rasul (Generally Hospital), Maricris Rivera (Short Dances) and Ellie Posadas (Wexford Plaza). **Tita Collective** won the 2019 Steamwhistle Producers' Pick at the Toronto Sketch Comedy Festival and were named as part of "19 Asian Millennial Women You Should Know" by Cold Tea Collective.

Tita Collective are an all Filipina collective composed of award-winning playwrights, comedians, musicians, dancers, theatre makers and actors. They explore different mediums to tell the stories about the Filipinx diaspora. They sing, they dance, and they'll make you snort-laugh *halo-halo* through your nose!

Tita Jokes

January 8 - 19, 2020 at Next Stage Theatre Festival
Factory Theatre, Mainspace
125 Bathurst Street

Performance Dates and Times:

Wednesday, January 8, 9:15pm
Friday, January 10, 5:00pm
Saturday, January 11, 3:15pm (Talkback at 4:30pm)
Sunday, January 12, 6:15pm
Wednesday, January 15, 6:45pm (Relaxed Performance)
Friday, January 17, 7:15pm
Sunday, January 19, 1:30pm

Tickets are \$18 and available by

Phone: 416.966.1062 ext. 0 or

Online: <https://fringetoronto.com/next-stage/tickets-pass-info>

fringetoronto.com/next-stage/

facebook.com/titacollective / twitter.com/tita_collective / instagram.com/tita.collective

#titajokes #titapower

History: Next Stage Theatre Festival was founded in 2008. It was created to encourage indie artists and artists who had previously been in a Fringe Festival to move beyond the summer festival model and showcase their work to a wider audience, including discerning artistic decision makers who could be interested in programming their shows on main stages across the country.

Finding its home in January at Factory Theatre, it quickly became the premiere winter theatre event in the city, filling in a void that the after-holiday season had created. Over the last 13 years there have been many shows that appeared at previous Fringe Festivals as well as many new works by established indie theatre artists who have demonstrated the passion and tenacity to take their work to the next stage.

In 2018 we removed the caveat that participants had to be a previous Fringe Festival artist and allowed anyone to apply. We recognized that as the Fringe is a lottery not everyone will have had a chance to perform in one and therefore would also not have the opportunity to apply to Next Stage. A jury of industry experts evaluate the submissions.

Media Contact: Damien Nelson, damien@wantandable.ca

Media Contact for Next Stage: Claire Wynveen, Toronto Fringe,
communications@fringetoronto.com