## At the Assembly Hall — BINGO!

Assembly Festival is working with multi-award winning Scottish theatre companies Grid Iron and Stellar Quines on the production of their new show BINGO! which begins a run at Assembly Hall on the Mound, Edinburgh in March.

This is the first-time Assembly has programmed shows at the Assembly Hall outwith the Festival in August.

William Burdett-Coutts, Director of Assembly Festival said: "Assembly is committed to investing in Scottish theatre year-round. Since 2016 and the launch of the ART (Assembly Roxy Theatre) prize we have been working more and more with Scottish theatre companies out-with the Festival. In 2012 we started running Assembly Roxy where we present theatre, comedy and music year-round. This year, with the extended use of Assembly Hall, we are delighted that we will be able to present much larger-scale theatre and new work to Edinburgh audiences."



BINGO! which has an all-star cast from British stage and television, is directed by Stellar Quines' Artistic Director Jemima Levick, and the premiere runs from 6-17 March.

This new musical comedy focuses on the lives of six characters and one fateful night at the bingo, when a fun night out, becomes a financial plan.

In addition to BINGO! Assembly Festival also has some of its Festival shows on early sale and a fantastic line-up programmed at Assembly Roxy this spring.

Returning in August are Andrew Maxwell (BBC One Have I Got News for You, and BBC Two Mock the Week), and David O'Doherty (BBC Two Live at the Apollo and Channel 4's 8 out of 10 Cats Does Countdown).

Along with a new late-night circus, drag, burlesque and comedy show Close Encounters from Briefs: the brilliance behind Edinburgh sell-out show Hot Brown Honey. Plus, Assembly's renowned opening night Gala on 1 August brings highlights from across this year's programme, and Best of the Fest — a perfect way to end an evening in the company of some of the best comedy line-ups of the Festival.

Highlights at Assembly Roxy this spring include Nonsense Room Productions' Ae Fond Kiss (23 Feb) — a musical play about the life and loves of Robert Burns, At a Stretch (16 Feb) a sharp, physical comedy with breath-taking physical theatre from Fringe First award-winning Jordan & Skinner and, later in the year, singer/songwriter Sarah McQuaid (8 May) who was recently honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Ards International Guitar Festival in Northern Ireland.

Tickets for all performances are available at <a href="https://www.assemblyfestival.com">www.assemblyfestival.com</a>