

fringe

PRESS RELEASE

Infinity Repertory Theatre (Boston, USA) **Geek**

music and lyrics by George Griggs,
book by Paul Andrew Perez



Darkly Comic American Musical Tells the Tale of a Modern Elephant Man Gibby Stone – love, loss and the high price of being different

Premiering at the Edinburgh Fringe, **Geek** is a darkly comic musical about love, loss, persecution and redemption, from **Infinity Rep**, a Boston-based company run by young people.

Born and raised in Hopeless Junction USA, Gibby Stone is a gentle-hearted teenager who simply wants to be loved and fit in – but fate is cruel. Gibby’s life in a dirt-poor conservative Christian town goes from bad to awful when medical treatment for severe acne has hideous side effects, metamorphosing her into a latter-day Elephant Man. Matters get nightmarish when Bible-thumping Pentecostals decide she’s in the grip of Satan after their attempts to cure her by prayer just make her head glow. In fact Gibby was simply blushing, after falling for a girl in the congregation. Run out of town by the mob and taking refuge in a traveling freak show Gibby finds happiness for a while, but then the wheels of misfortune begin to grind once more.

This is **Infinity Rep’s** sixth visit to the Fringe. The company has earned a reputation for presenting quality new work by talented young people. In 2016 it premiered **Jessica Avellino’s** musical *Dark Heart* which achieved sell-out shows, rave reviews (“really impressive” Broadway Baby, “deep and thoughtful” Fringe Guru) and won the Derek Award for Best Overseas Company.

Geek has been created by composer and lyricist **George Griggs** and director **Paul Andrew Perez** and has echoes of *O Brother Where Art Thou?*, *Wonder* and *The Greatest Showman*. The cast, all aged 17-18, includes **Olivia Tebsherany** whose singing in *Dark Heart* was warmly praised.

Paul Perez said: ‘Gibby’s situation seems surreal, but George and our young cast capture some chilling truths about the world we live in. Despite being a victim, she is blamed for her misfortune and persecuted for being different. Like most people Gibby wants love and acceptance, but she is constantly disappointed. She’s rejected and sold out by her parents, her religion, her friends and even her love. ‘Geek is a story of a young woman’s long struggle to find love and redemption against the odds.’

www.geekthemusical.com

Listings Information

Venue	C aquila, Roman Eagle Lodge, Johnston Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2PW, venue 21
Dates	2-18 Aug
Time	19:05 (Ohr60)
Ticket prices	£8.50-£10.50 / concessions £6.50-£8.50 / under 18s £4.50-£6.50
C venues box office	0131 581 5555 / www.CtheFestival.com/2018/geek
Fringe box office	0131 226 0000 / www.edfringe.com

C venues

vibrant vivacious variety

general manager
Rosie Wake
artistic director
Hartley T A Kemp

year round administration

C venues London
5 Alexandra Mansions
Chichele Road
London NW2 3AS

during the Fringe in August

C venues Edinburgh

Adam House
Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1HR

Ticket collection at any C venue

press office tel 0131 581 5550
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For further information, images and interview availability please contact Matthew Shelley at Infinity Repertory Theatre on 07786 704299 / matthew@scottishfestivalspr.org or the C venues press office on 0131 581 5550 / press@cvenues.com

AQUILA **venue 21**
ROMAN EAGLE LODGE
JOHNSTON TERRACE
0131 581 5555
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fringe