

UNICORN · COLONIAL · FITZPATRICK  
**BERKSHIRE**  
THEATRE GROUP

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**For Immediate Release, Please: July 21, 2015**

**Berkshire Theatre Group Presents *The Club*,  
Directed by Rocco Sisto,  
Co-Directed and Choreographed by Barbara Allen,  
with Musical Direction by Deb Lapidus  
And Featuring Deborah Grausman, Kathy Jo Grover,  
Annette Miller and Maureen O'Flynn**

**Pittsfield, MA** – Berkshire Theatre Group presents *The Club* at The Garage, directed by Rocco Sisto, co-directed and choreographed by Barbara Allen, with musical direction by Deb Lapidus and featuring Deborah Grausman, Kathy Jo Grover, Annette Miller and Maureen O'Flynn at The Garage at BTG's Pittsfield Campus. Opening Night is Friday, July 31 at 8pm, and the production closes Sunday, August 9 at 2pm.

Tickets to *The Club* are \$30. Tickets may be purchased in person at the Colonial Ticket Office at 111 South Street, Pittsfield; at the Fitzpatrick Main Stage Ticket Office at 83 East Main Street, Stockbridge; by calling (413) 997-4444 or online at [www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org](http://www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org). All plays, schedules, casting and prices are subject to change.

Enter the bold, curious and provocative world of a private 20th century men's club—where gender roles are reversed and nothing is off limits. *The Club* is a musical excursion where men can be men and indulge in those pastimes that sets them apart from the rest of the human race. Where they can drink, play, smoke, and of course talk about what's always on their mind: women!

Rocco Sisto says, "Both Barbara Allen (co-director and choreographer) and I were living in New York City when the original production was playing down on Bleecker Street. We were drawn to the themes of sexual identity and cultural expectations of both men and women as expressed in the popular music of the time period of the play. In our research, we were delighted to discover that the production originated in the Berkshires at the Lenox Arts Center, and felt that it was only fitting that it return to the Berkshires."

Tony Simotes, Managing Director of Berkshire Theatre Group, says, "In classical theater it's not unusual for women to take on men's roles. We call them 'pant roles.' Having worked with the Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company, I've had the opportunity to stage fight sequences and work the text from a very different perspective when the entire cast is women. With *The Club*, its conceit is different—women playing men with the full bravado of the times and with all the misogynistic manners associated with a men's club of the era. With *The Club* you have a theater piece that showcases a broad spectrum of music of that time period and featuring women of today taking on these roles to reveal the humor, wit and seriousness of a play ahead of its time."

### ***The Club***

by Eve Merriam

directed by Rocco Sisto

co-directed and choreographed by Barbara Allen

musical direction by Deb Lapidus

Featuring Deborah Grausman, Kathy Jo Grover, Annette Miller and Maureen O'Flynn

at The Garage, 111 South St., Pittsfield Campus

Press Opening/Opening Night: Friday, July 31 8pm

Closing: Sunday, August 9 at 8pm

Tickets: \$30

Sponsored by: Tashtego Films

### Performance Dates

Friday, July 31 at 8pm (Opening)

Tuesday, August 4 at 8pm

Wednesday, August 5 at 8pm

Thursday, August 6 at 8pm

Friday, August 7 at 8pm

Saturday, August 8 at 8pm

Sunday, August 9 at 8pm

For more information about Berkshire Theatre Group and our upcoming season, please visit [www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org](http://www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org)

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### **About Berkshire Theatre Group**

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. Having united in November of 2010 under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, these two institutions are providing the Berkshires and beyond with the finest in live theatre, music, dance and the visual arts in Stockbridge, MA and Pittsfield, MA. The Fitzpatrick Main Stage (400 seats), cataloged by the National Register of Historic Places, was originally designed and built by Stanford White as the Stockbridge Casino in 1888. The intimate Unicorn Theatre (122 seats) is a home for emerging artists and new theatrical ideas. The Colonial in Pittsfield (780 seats) re-opened in August of 2006, following a \$21 million restoration, and boasts pristine acoustics, classic gilded age architecture and state-of-the-art technical systems. BTG also performs at The Garage, a music venue located in the lobby of The Colonial. BTG serves over 100,000 patrons per year and reaches over 13,000 students through its educational and outreach programs. To purchase

tickets, call (413) 997-4444 or go online to [www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org](http://www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org).