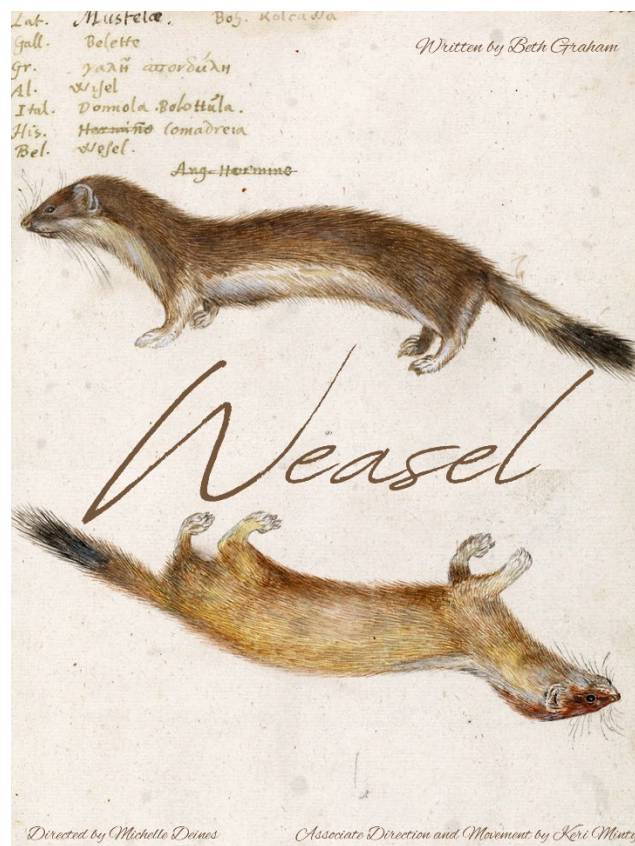


BlueShore Financial  
CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



# CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

Visual Story for the Relaxed Performance  
Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> at 2pm



This visual story is designed for visitors to the Relaxed Performance of *Weasel*. It contains information and images to help prepare you for your visit.

***The BlueShore Financial Centre for the Performing Arts at Capilano University. Also known as BlueShore at CapU***

- The play is being performed at the BlueShore at CapU. Here are two photos of the outside of the theatreso you know what it looks like:





- When you come into the building there is a café with several tables, a concession and a box office (where you can pick up your tickets). It may be busy as there will be a lot of other people coming to see the play.

It will look like this picture



- This is the auditorium where the play is performed. The audience (that's you) sit down to watch the play. It will be full of people and could be noisy.

This is a picture of the auditorium.





- The stage is where the actors perform the play.

Here is a picture of the stage.



## **How long is the play?**

The play is shown in two halves with a 15 minute break in the middle. The first half is 1 hour and 10 minutes and the second half is about 1 hour and 10 minutes long.

## **Chill-Out Areas**

If you want to have a break during the play you can go to a chill-out area. You can ask an usher to show you where they are.

Here is a picture of a chill out area.



This is usually a board room and will look a little different on performance day.

Feel free to bring a sensory kit for use in the theatre and/or the chill-out area.

### **Ushers and Front of House Staff**

Ushers are people who check your tickets for the theatre. If you need help or have a question you can ask them. Here is a picture of a Front of House Manager.





## **What is the play about?**

Charlie is an actor. Charlie was an actor.

Charlie will be an actor again, provided she can cross the swirling abyss, keep from floating away, quiet the voices, and shake those pesky weasels off her back. Weasel is a play about the search for truth, the pursuit of ambition, and the cost of pretending everything is fine.

## **The characters in the play**

Below are pictures of all the different actors and the names of the characters they play. Some actors play more than one character and, so that they look different, they change the way they move and talk and they change their costume (a costume is the name for the clothes actors wear onstage).

**Charlie:** She is a professional actress. At the beginning of the play, she is so afraid that she'll fail if she tries to act again that she can't even answer a phone call from a local director. She is played by four people, each one representing a different version of the character in different times. There is the present Charlie, who often watches the other four Charlies as they re-enact her different moments of her past. Sometimes, all four Charlies speak to each other.

**The Weasels:** They are not exactly animals, but rather represent Charlie's insecurities and emotions. Like animals, they are impulsive, emotional, funny and energetic. Sometimes they can also lash out and try to hurt Charlie. Their names are Bubs, Echo, Buster and Pox.

**Benji:** He is the main antagonist of the story. He is a theatre director and directs Charlie in a play he has written. For some reason that is never fully explained, Benji focusses on Charlie and often questions her acting choices to the point where she begins to doubt herself. He often contradicts himself, asking for one technique one day, and the next day saying he never asked for it. He seems to believe he is helping Charlie.

**Finn:** She is Charlie's partner and loves her unconditionally. They've been together for a while, so she's seen in different moments of Charlie's past as well. Finn wants to help Charlie get better.

**Nick:** He is also an actor and one of Charlie's best friends. He is very loyal and stands up for her, often when no one else does. He is one her biggest supporters during the process of working with Benji. He is sweet, likable and understanding.

**Taylor:** She is one of Charlie's friends and is the dramaturg in Benji's play. Although she starts out as a friend, Taylor admires Benji so much that she does not question his actions when he begins to target Charlie. Ultimately, Taylor wants to advance her career and protect herself.

**Cleo:** She is also an actress and has known Charlie for a long time. She is an artist with big insecurities and tries to find validation and recognition by putting herself on top of the others, as well as drinking alcohol to dampen her stage fright. Like all the characters, she struggles with the risks of speaking up for oneself or another person.

***Spoiler Alert!*** The notes below are provided for those who would benefit from being prepared for some of the more dramatic or scary elements of the performance.

- Content warning: Weasel includes strong language and deals with difficult subject matter, including sexual assault. It is not recommended for young children.
- During the performance, there will be some nontoxic fog or haze. It is safe for you in the theatre.



**A message from us**