

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: KUKER & LEE PR



Sandra Kuker-Franco and Anita J. Lee

Email: SJKukerPR@gmail.com

World Premiere at Hollywood Fringe Festival

SWIPED

Musical Theatre – Online Dating – Comedy Operetta

Opening June 21, 2019 @ 6:30PM



Loosely based on a true story...

Los Angeles, CA (May 2, 2019) **SWIPED** is a world premiere original musical with music and lyrics written by Alena Bernardi, book written by Alena Bernardi and Carly Pandza, Directed by Carly Pandza, and starring Alena Bernardi that opens Friday, June 21 @6:30PM at The Hudson Backstage (6539 Santa Monica Blvd. 90038). **SWIPED "APPily Ever After"** is a modern day love story about about the life of Polly, a meticulous planner that finds herself manifesting her very first relationship using online dating apps, and all the confusion, fear, and strangeness that comes along with it.

Yes, it's a comedy, and maybe we can even call it a contemporary fairytale, but really it's story that every 21st century human being with dreams and goals and passions can relate to. Our main character, Polly, is just that 21st century human being.

After Polly's parents split up when she was nine years old, she decided that the only way she could control her destiny was to meticulously plan out every aspect of her life, but when her boss asks her to bring her boyfriend to the company mixer she realizes the one thing that she never meticulously planned for was a relationship. This is a girl that micromanaged and manifested her sleepovers, her line position in the nutcracker, her role in student government, and even the class senior prank. I mean who wouldn't love to see 100 micro-pigs running down the halls of a high school on ditch day? Not anybody we'd like to know. How did she miss planning for a relationship?

All of Polly's dreams had come true and now it was time for her to find....ahem.... love..... the one thing that it's kind of starting to look like she might have been avoiding this whole time. Do Polly's master planning and manifesting skills find her the relationship that she's set out to have? Come see SWIPED "APPily Ever After" to find out!

YouTube Video Link: <https://youtu.be/hJfw6UVDk2I>

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Book by Alena Bernardi and Carly Pandza

Music and Lyrics by Alena Bernardi

Directed by Carly Pandza

THE CAST

Alena Bernardi

PERFORMANCES DATES & TICKETS

Hudson Backstage Theatre – 6539 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90038

Fri. June 21 @6:30PM | Sat. June 22 @4:30PM | Sat. June 22 @8:30PM | Sun. June 23 @4:30PM

Fri. June 28 @6:30PM | Sat. June 29 @4:30PM | Sat. June 29 @8:30PM | Sun. June 30 @4:30PM

Tickets: \$10.00 – On sale at: <http://hff19.org/5617>

Running time: 75 minutes

BIO'S

ALENA BERNARDI - CREATOR

Alena grew up in the suburbs of Detroit, Michigan in a grey brick house that stood on a dirt road with 3 acres of land. As a five year old Alena used to listen to her mother stumble through and eventually master traditional piano classics from Beethoven to Debussy. At seven Alena finally had begged her mom enough for lessons that they signed her up. It was around then that the Phantom of the Opera was in the midst of touring around the states and at a request to her mother to accompany her in the 2nd grade talent show singing Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic; Angel of Music, Alena was off to developing an addiction to the style that perfectly blends musical theatre and classical music (weather it's healthy addiction or not is still up for debate).

Alena's musical interests blossomed as a pre-teen with the rise of the boy band and the epic female popstar. Wholed up in her basement for hours on end with her new karaoke machine, Alena would sing and dance to early 2000's classics like NSYNC's "Just Got Paid" and Christina Aguilera's "Come On Over." Needless to say she has always been an eclectic child and continues to unapologetically use her love of pop, musical theatre, and classical music in all of her writing.

Now grown, Alena has uncovered a passion for writing fun comedic musicals that give a voice to the life of the modern women; hence the birth of Swiped APPily Ever After; The Musical which premieres June 21st at The Hudson Theatres in Hollywood for this years 2019 Hollywood Fringe Festival.

Alena released a full length album in March 2018 titled BEAUTIFUL MOMENT. Other credits include Barbarina in The Marriage of Figaro, Musetta in La Boheme, and Rapunzel in Into the Woods. Find more about what Alena is up to around town and listen to her music at www.alenabernardi.com.

CARLY PANDZA - Director

Carly Pandza was born in San Diego, CA and has been directing stage and film from the ripe old age of 5 when she'd steal her mom's old VHS tape recorder and put on live productions with all her cousins in her grandmother's back living room. She received her double Bachelor of Fine Arts from Chapman University for Film Production and Screen Acting. She won the prestigious Cecil B. DeMille for 'Achievement in Screen Acting' award as well as the Ron Thronson 'Outstanding Performance' award for her studies and performance while in school. She has studied storytelling and worked on her craft under some of the most prestigious creative companies from around the world such as the famous The Old Globe Theatre in San Diego, CA, A Noise Within theater company in Pasadena, California, Ensemble Studio Theatre in Los Angeles, California, Manhattan Film Institute in New York and The National Theatre School of Ireland in Dublin, Ireland. She has traveled, worked and studied around the world in various countries in Europe and in Africa. Her 2010 documentary short "Shadows in the Forest" was accepted into several festivals including the Newport Beach Film Festival. She has worked in some capacity as a writer, director, creative consultant and digital marketer since 2011 for companies such as Disney, Chapman University and Framework. One of her most proud partnerships was acting within the popular, highly acclaimed immersive theater of cruelty production of Creep: Entry from Just Fix It Productions. She is responsible for producing the successful "You Are Not Your Hair" charity event in summer 2014 in

Los Angeles. Her 2015 feature-length documentary entitled “Hair” followed her on her journey of discovering cultural identity through hair. The award-winning film was bought by Hulu and ran on their streaming service platform. She is thrilled to be launching her own theater company, HER Theatre Company, with their first production of Theresa Rebeck’s play, “Sunday On The Rocks” this Spring and following it up shortly with Swiped at the 2019 Hollywood Fringe Festival. They are planning their next project to be a devisement adaptation piece of Louis May Alcott’s classic novel “Little Women.” HER Theatre will focus on female character driven plays and producing female playwrights. The companies focus is to illuminate, encourage, showcase and raise the visibility of underrepresented female artists in theater.

Carly has been teaching, volunteering and mentoring children from infants to high schoolers for the past 8 years. She has a passion for working with youth as she considers herself just a big kid at heart. She has a passion for unlocking the potential for all ages as she is a coach, consultant and leader of adult transformational learning programs since 2014. She has been trained and led transformational coaching and leadership programs at Landmark Worldwide where she has impacted thousands of people’s lives. Outside of the classroom, she loves dancing, is obsessed with going to the movies and adores spending time with her husband of 3 years, their two new puppies as well as her sister and her husband who are her upstairs neighbors! A renaissance woman but when it boils down to it, she’s a storyteller. Through whatever medium or opportunity she’s committed to telling compelling stories that touch, move and inspire others. Her passion is creating art that raises social consciousness and causes transformation in the world.

FOR PRESS QUESTIONS CONTACT:

KUKER & LEE PR

Sandra Kuker-Franco and Anita J. Lee

Email – SJKukerPR@gmail.com or Tele. (310) 652-7222

NOTE: THIS SHOW IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW