

# Village Theatre

## Production Preview Guide

# MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET

The blockbuster hit story of Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins returns to Village Theatre's stage – 12 years after its triumphant premier. This powerhouse musical had audiences on their feet, first in Issaquah and Everett, and then on Broadway before going to London, Chicago, Las Vegas, and across the country on tour, garnering awards and critical acclaim along the way. Now, it returns home to the Pacific Northwest in this all-new production bursting with the hit songs of the 1950s you know and love.

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### THE PURPOSE OF A PRODUCTION PREVIEW GUIDE:

Many people have different ideas about what material is appropriate, both for themselves and their families. This production preview guide is provided to give you the necessary information to determine if the content of our production is suitable for you and your loved ones. Please be aware that this document is provided with the intent of full disclosure, and therefore contains plot spoilers. Also, because all of our productions are locally produced, there may be cases where minor changes occur as the director prepares the show for the stage. In such cases, this guide will be updated accordingly. Once the show is open and on stage, there will be no further changes.

### A MESSAGE FROM JERRY DIXON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Creators Colin Escott and Carl Mutrux invite us into a singular experience to reveal real people as well as their rock star lives. Sometimes sweet, sometimes salty, the words and actions can get a little gritty. But, the writers manage to strike the perfect balance for their iconic characters.

### SCRIPT CONTENT DETAILS:

**Language:** Strong language is used casually throughout the show. This includes several uses of “hell,” “ass,” and “damn,” as well as singular uses of “Goddamn,” “God,” “mutahumpin’est,” and “effing.”

**Violence:** Several characters reflect on the deaths of their siblings, including Jerry Lee remembering how his brother was killed by a drunk driver. Johnny Cash sings a song about a train engineer who died in an accident. There are a few instances where Carl Perkins semi-jokingly threatens violence against Jerry Lee, such as threatening to hit him over the head with a mic stand and later saying, “Boy, don’t make me take you out back and shoot you.” The drummer makes one reference to capital punishment, saying it is so cold outside that “down by the jail they’re begging for the electric chair.”

**Sexual Content:** Several songs contain suggestive lyrics such as, “there’ll be fifteen minutes of kissin’, and then you’ll holler, ‘Jerry Lee don’t stop,’” and, “Kiss me baby, feels good / hold me baby, I want to love you like a lover should.” Jerry Lee attempts to flirt with Dyanne throughout the show, and at one point confesses that he “did commit an act of adultery on August 18 with a woman in a 1951 Model Ford automobile.” In a discussion about

the meaning of rock 'n' roll, Jerry Lee describes it as "temptation, fornication, and damnation." Dyanne kisses Elvis twice.

**Drugs/Alcohol:** Carl Perkins smokes a cigarette onstage in the early moments of the show. The musicians drink from flasks a few times throughout, and there is a scene where Johnny Cash drinks a beer. The characters refer to themselves and others consuming alcohol at various points, and they all drink from shot glasses at the end of the show in celebration.