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**Z Space and piece by piece productions present the world premiere of  
The Kilbanes' *Weightless***

*An electrifying rock musical written by songwriting duo Kate Kilbane and Dan Moses*  
February 22-March 18, 2018

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—November 29, 2017—Z Space and piece by piece productions are pleased to present the world premiere of The Kilbanes' *Weightless*, at Z Space February 22-March 18, 2018. Press opening is Wednesday, February 28 at 8pm.

Commissioned and developed by Z Space, piece by piece Productions and Encore Theatre, five years in the making, *Weightless* is a genre-bending theatrical event that combines intimate storytelling with a high-energy rock show. It is also the first major production of Z Space's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.

*Weightless* is an interpretation of the story of Procne and Philomela, from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Through intimate storytelling and the Kilbanes' celebrated indie rock sound, *Weightless* explores the bonds of sisterhood and the power of the female voice. The Kilbanes have created a performance style that blends the raucous energy of a rock show with the imaginative spirit of raw, experimental theatre. With *Weightless*, The Kilbanes weave together poetic fairytale with captivating indie rock to create an electrifying theatrical event.

Directed by Becca Wolff, *Weightless* stars Lila Blue, Julia Brothers, Dan Harris, Kate Kilbane, Dan Moses and Joshua Pollock. For this unique offering, The Kilbanes are curating a program of local bands and musicians who will perform prior to *Weightless* each evening. Guests who come early will be treated to some of the Bay Area's best music, to be followed by the modernized myth of *Weightless*.

*Weightless* is one of many productions presented with Z Space's longstanding partner, piece by piece productions. Together Z Space and piece by piece also co-produced The Bengsons' *Hundred Days*; and co-presented The Wooster Group's *Early Shaker Spirituals* and *The Town Hall Affair*; and Noche Flamenca/Soledad Barrio's *Antigona*.

**CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE**

**WHAT:**

Z Space and piece by piece productions are pleased to present *Weightless* at Z Space.

**WHEN:**

February 22-March 18, 2018

(All performances except for Sundays feature opening musical acts)

Thursday, February 22, Preview, 7 pm

Friday, February 23, Preview, 8 pm

Saturday, February 24, Preview, 8 pm

Sunday, February 25, Preview, 2pm

Tuesday, February 27, Preview 7pm

Wednesday, February 28, Press Opening (7pm/doors open, opening acts; 8pm/Weightless start)

Thursday, March 1, 7pm

Friday, March 2, 8pm

Saturday, March 3, 8pm

Sunday, March 4, 2pm

Wednesday, March 7, 7pm

Thursday, March 8, 7pm

Friday, March 9, 8pm

Saturday, March 10, 8pm

Sunday, March 11, 2pm

Wednesday, March 14, 7pm

Thursday, March 15, 7pm

Friday, March 16, 8pm

Saturday, March 17, 8pm

Sunday, March 18, 2pm

**WHERE:**

Z Space, 450 Florida Street, San Francisco, CA

**TICKETS:**

\$20-\$50, available at [www.zspace.org](http://www.zspace.org), 415-626-0453

**About The Kilbanes**

The Kilbanes are a captivating voice in the Bay Area music and theater scenes. This Oakland-based, theatrical rock band is the musical experiment of Kate Kilbane and Dan Moses, a songwriting duo (who happen to be married). The Kilbanes have created a performance style that blends the raucous energy of a rock show with the mesmerizing storytelling found in raw, experimental theater.

The Kilbanes' third rock opera, *Eddie the Marvelous Who Will Save the World*, began its life at Berkeley Rep's Ground Floor Program in 2014 and was selected for Theatreworks' New Works Festival in August of 2016. The Kilbanes just returned to Theatreworks for their Writers Retreat, where they began a collaboration with New York-based playwright Lynn Rosen on a new musical, *Gurley!*, about Helen Gurley Brown.

The *SF Chronicle* named a 2016 concert-version of The Kilbanes' rock opera, *Weightless*, as one of the "Top Ten Theater Picks of 2016". An early iteration of *Weightless* won "Best of Fringe" at the SF Fringe Festival in 2012. *SF Weekly* called it "One of the best shows of the year" and named Kate one of the Bay area's 11 Theater Artists to watch in 2013. The *SF Chronicle* described *Weightless* as "an outright revelation".

Their first rock opera, *the medea cycle*, has played all over the Bay Area, as well as in Los Angeles, New York, and Dallas. *SF* music critic Alan Monasch called *the medea cycle* "A masterwork of theater," and *SF* music blogger Bill Chapin named the song "Chariot Rise" as one of his top 30 tracks of 2012. The

Kilbanes have also collaborated with award-winning Bay Area playwright Lauren Gunderson, composing music for her plays *Ada and the Engine* and *By and By*.

In addition to their work in the theater, The Kilbanes tour as a rock band and have performed at clubs and arthouses in over 20 cities across the United States including: Ars Nova and Littlefield in New York City, Room 5 in Los Angeles, The Red Poppy Art House, Lost Church and Viracocha in San Francisco, The Dragon's Den in New Orleans, as well as venues in Portland, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago, Boulder, Omaha, Salt Lake City, Memphis, and Nashville.

### **About Z Space**

Z Space, based in the Mission District of San Francisco, is one of the nation's leading laboratories for the development of new works. Led by Executive Artistic Director Lisa Steindler since 2007 and founded by David Dower in 1993, Z Space celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2018, continuing its mission to empower artistic risk, collaboration and camaraderie amongst artists and audience in the service of commissioning, developing, and producing new work.

Keystone initiatives include New Work, a development, production, and presentation program that supports artists and ensembles from conception to realization of unique works; Word for Word, a resident theater company that transforms works of literature verbatim to the stage; Youth Arts, an arts education program promoting literacy and creativity; and the subsidized rental program which opens our venues for use by a variety of other art groups.

Z Space fills an essential role in the Bay Area's arts ecology and continues to raise its profile and partnerships both regionally and nationally. Eschewing traditional theater models with fixed seasons and subscription packages, Z Space chooses to remain flexible, to focus on artists' needs, and to facilitate the time and resources necessary to develop each project fully.

**piece by piece productions** is a not for profit producing organization that was started in 1999 by Wendy vanden Heuvel. Productions have included: *Medea* directed by Deborah Warner with Fiona Shaw on Broadway (associate producer), *The Tricky Part* (2004 Obie award and two Drama Desk nominations including Outstanding Play) by Martin Moran and *All The Rage*, (Lucille Lortel Award, Outstanding Solo Show 2013) by Martin Moran produced with Rising Phoenix Repertory and The Barrow Group; *The Walworth Farce* by Enda Walsh; Mabou Mines *DollHouse*, Emma Rice's *Brief Encounter* and *Let The Right One In*, all in association with St. Ann's Warehouse; *My Name is Rachel Corrie* in association with The Royal Court Theatre; *Slipping* in association with Rising Phoenix Repertory and Rattlestick Playwrights Theater; *Elective Affinities* with Zoe Caldwell by David Adjmi, co-produced with Rising Phoenix Repertory and Soho Rep; Lee Breuer's *La Divina Caricatura* in association with St. Ann's Warehouse, La Mama ETC, Mabou Mines, and Dovetail Productions; and *Hundred Days* by The Bengsons and Kate E. Ryan, co produced with Z Space (TBA Outstanding New Musical 2014).

piece by piece productions has been a producer with co-creators Brian Mertes and Melissa Kievman on *The Lake Lucille Chekhov Project* since 2010 (*Ivanov*, *Seagull*). Film: *The Rest I Make Up: Documenting Irene* directed by Michelle Memran (a documentary about the life and work of the playwright Maria Irene Fornes), *I Am A Seagull: The Lake Lucille Chekhov Project* directed by Brian Mertes. Most recently piece by piece productions co-produced Martin Moran's *The Tricky Part* and *All the Rage* with A.C.T at The Strand Theater in San Francisco; and co-presented Noche Flamenca's *Antigona* and The Wooster Group's *The Town Hall Affair* with Z Space. Wendy lives in San Francisco with her husband Brad Coley and their daughter Lila Blue.