

# FanAddict

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Written & Directed by Daphne Finlayson

July 17–26, 2025 • Venue #8: Rachel Browne Theatre

Winnipeg Fringe Festival



**Hypothetical Projects** ✓

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DIGITAL MEETS ANALOG IN NEW MANITOBAN PLAY

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025** - Hypothetical Projects is proud to present **FANADDICT** at the 2025 Winnipeg Fringe Festival!

From the creator of *How to Live Forever* (Nominee, 2023 Harry S. Rintoul Award) comes a new play scrolling back through the history of the Internet. FANADDICT examines our current online culture and what people will do to stay relevant. The play combines digital video with the analog medium of theatre to explore what happens to YouTubers when the cameras turn off.

Raised in front of a camera, Luke has been famous for as long as he can remember. The one thing he doesn't remember is being given a choice. Luke begins to question who he is outside of the fame when Kendra, a teenage superfan, wins a meet and greet with her favourite influencer.

*"I come from a background of both theatre and film,"* Finlayson explains. *"I was really drawn to this image of a camera feed projected onstage and what the audience can see that the camera doesn't."*

**FANADDICT** was workshopped by a team of playwrights across Canada through the 2024 RealWheels National Playwriting Circle. An excerpt is available for preview on their podcast, [Waveforms](#). Finlayson also received the inaugural Dan Augusta Promise Prize from Sick + Twisted Theatre in support of this project.

**FANADDICT** is written and directed by **Daphne Finlayson** with sound design by **Paul De Gurse**. The cast features **Ethan Stark** and **Shanice Raymond** with the voices of **Lisa Chartrand**, **Madyson Richard**, **Logan Stefanson**, and **Ryland Thiessen**. Stage Manager: **Phenix Rock**.

Tickets for FANADDICT start at \$14. Performances will take place at the **Rachel Browne Theatre** (211 Bannatyne Ave, Venue #8.) Students, seniors, and patrons under 25 can access a discounted rate of \$10. Recommended for mature audiences.

For showtimes and ticket information, call the MTC Box Office at 204-942-6537, toll-free at 1-877-446-4500, or visit [www.winnipegfringe.com](http://www.winnipegfringe.com)

**DAPHNE FINLAYSON (she/her)**

Director/Playwright/"News Anchor"

Daphne is a director and creator based in Winnipeg. She is a graduate of the University of Manitoba as well as Red River College's Digital Film and Media Production program. Directing credits include *Prophecy* (Assistant Director, Theatre Projects Manitoba); *How to Live Forever, (Art)ist* (Hypothetical Projects); *12<sup>th</sup> Night: A Musical* (Artistic Associate, Village Conservatory/Keep Theatre); and *It's a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play* (Apprentice Director, RMTCT). Daphne was the recipient of the inaugural Dan Augusta Promise Prize from Sick + Twisted Theatre in support of this production. In 2023, her show *How to Live Forever* was shortlisted for the Harry S. Rintoul Award for Best New Manitoban Play. For more on her past work, visit [daphnefinlayson.com](http://daphnefinlayson.com)

**PAUL DE GURSE (he/him)**

Sound Designer

Paul works as a music professional across Canada. Music direction credits include the Canadian premiere of *Disney's Frozen, Billy Elliot* (Neptune Theatre); *The Band's Visit* (Winnipeg Jewish Theatre); *Afterlight* (The Keep Theatre/Walk&Talk Theatre); *End of the Line* (Theatre Projects Manitoba/Walk&Talk Theatre); *Outside Joke: Big Dickens Energy* and *Bigger Dickens Energy* (Prairie Theatre Exchange). Paul is one of the co-founders of the Village Conservatory for Music Theatre and the music director for local bands Prairie Hearts and the Band at the Bottom of the Sea (playing the Cube this Fringe!)

**PHENIX ROCK (they/xe)**

Stage Manager

Phenix is an American-Canadian storyteller/theatre creative and is excited to be a part of *FanAddict* as a debut Stage Manager at Winnipeg Fringe! This Winnipeg/Minneapolis-based artist is in the midst of their ABA in Theatre at the University of Manitoba and has been in shows both on and offstage as actor, director, stage manager, and production personnel. They've worked shows such as *Dogfight* (Dry Cold Productions); *Our Country's Good, That Elusive Spark, Comedy of Errors* (UM); *An American Tail, Locomotion, Corduroy* (CTC); *Working, Coffee With God* (PCAE). Instagram: @phenix\_rocks

**ETHAN STARK (he/him)**

"Luke"

Ethan is an enjoyer of all things creative. He loves to write, direct, and also act, sometimes, albeit unwisely, all at the same time! He is a proud Black Hole Alum, former

artist-in-residence at One Trunk Theatre, and current troupe member of Red Threads for Peace. His most recent projects include *The Ethan in the Room* at the 2024 Winnipeg Fringe Festival (guess what role he played) and *Sinking Ship*, a staged reading put on by The Village Conservatory and The Gargoyle Theatre. Ethan is so freaking honoured and excited to play Luke!!!

P.S. You can also catch him playing Val in Crosswalk Productions' *The Birdcage*!

## **SHANICE RAYMOND (she/her)**

"Kendra"

Shanice is a young performer based in Winnipeg. She has been a dancer for over fifteen years, training in jazz, tap, modern, hip hop, ballet, and musical theatre. Choreography credits include *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Tarzan* (Elmwood High School). From 2020-2023, Shanice participated in the Poetry in Voice national competition, where she made semifinals twice and won second place in team regionals. She was also a part of MTYP's After School Leaders program in 2021 and 2022. Since graduating, Shanice has trained with the Genesis School of Dance Surfacing Pre-Professional program in 2024, and recently, The Village Conservatory for Music Theatre. Since being a part of The ViC, Shanice has found a new excitement in being a part of the performing arts community. She has always thoroughly enjoyed being an audience member at Winnipeg Fringe shows, and never thought she would be in a show herself, but this summer Shanice is thrilled to be making her Fringe debut!

## **LISA CHARTRAND (she/her)**

"Linda"

Lisa is a recent alum of the Village Conservatory who is excitedly seeking out local productions to be a part of. This Fringe you can find her on stage in the musical, *The Puppets of Penzance*. She's grateful to her family's support and hopes to be the best mom for her real-life kiddos.

## **MADY RICHARD (she/her)**

"Lindsay"

Mady graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from the University of Manitoba. She trained as a competitive dancer with Ken Peter Dance Express and is currently teaching tap and musical theatre at Genesis School of Dance. She has trained with the Village Conservatory and worked as a resident artist with One Trunk Theatre. She performed with Meraki Theatre as part of their school tour *Déjà Vu*. Mady was the choreographer for

*A Work In Progress* (Crosswalk Productions) and performed in *How To Live Forever* (Hypothetical Projects) and *The Ethan in the Room* (Stark Raving Productions).

## **RYLAND THIESSEN (he/they)**

"David"

Ryland is thrilled to be part of another Hypothetical Project for Fringe 2025, this time lending his voice to David, Luke's best friend and creative collaborator. He hopes that this show (much like other Hypothetical Projects before) will encourage audiences to think about the power fiction holds in reality, and consider both the insidious harm it can cause, as well as the unquestionable good that it's capable of. Past Hypothetical Projects include *How to Live Forever*, *Fashionably Late*, *(Art)ist*, and *She's Not There*.

## **LOGAN STEFANSON (he/him)**

"Ryan"

Logan is a Winnipeg-based actor, writer, and visual artist, penning the self-published comic *Milk Rabbit*. He's also worked on two short films: *Bedbugs* for the Winnipeg Film Group's Filmmaking Workshop and *Collar ID* for the 48 Hour Film Festival. You can find him, his art, and other cool things he does on Instagram @boo.radical