## For Immediate Release -

**CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED "GENDER PLAY, OR WHAT YOU WILL" COMES TO WINNIPEG FRINGE** *"Theatrical Trans Trailblazer" Will Wilhelm Makes Fringe Festival Debut* **W** [Chicago Reader]

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**WINNIPEG, MB –** Fresh off of **Jeff Award nominations for Best New Play & Best Solo Performance** in Chicago and a critically acclaimed U.S. tour with stops at Actors Theatre of Louisville and Steppenwolf Theatre Company, *Gender Play, or what you Will* makes its **international debut** this July at Winnipeg's **Tom Hendry Warehouse Theatre**.

A solo tour-de-force co-created and performed by **Will Wilhelm**, *Gender Play* is an "incredibly original theatrical production" [Chicago Theatre Review] where audiences attend Will's impromptu party to celebrate their new friendship with one of the queerest playwrights in history: William Shakespeare! Together, Will & Will will embark on a wild, genre-bending journey to rediscover the genderfluid glory within the Bard's works. "At one of the nation's most preeminent theater schools, Wilhelm…found their 'artistry had been confined inside this ironclad gendered crate.' *Gender Play* torches that crate." [Chicago Reader]

"The way Will plays with form, structure, and content brought an unpredictable, joyful, and thoughtprovoking night of theatre to our audiences," says Audrey Francis, Steppenwolf's Co-Artistic Director.

Directed by **Emily Tarquin** and co-created with **Erin Murray**, this is not your high school Shakespeare. With tarot, magic, audience participation, a surprise dance break, and plenty of laughter, Wilhelm channels the Bard's original text into a radical, celebratory reclamation of trans and nonbinary identity. "In sharing trans stories of the past and present, we spark greater possibilities for the ones yet to come," said Wilhem. *Gender Play* is fiercely funny, deeply personal, and offers every audience member the queer bestie they never knew they needed.

## Venue: Tom Hendry Warehouse Theatre (140 Rupert Ave, Winnipeg, MB) Proudly part of the Winnipeg Fringe Festival

Showtimes: Thursday, July 17 5:45 PM Friday, July 18 10:15 PM Monday, July 21 2:30 PM Tuesday, July 22 6:00 PM Thursday, July 24 11:00 AM Friday, July 25 2:45 PM Saturday, July 26 7:45 PM Sunday, July 27 3:00 PM

Tickets: \$14

At-the-Door Discount: \$10 for ages 25 & under, students, and TGNC individuals

READ THE REVIEWS

Interviews and media comps available upon request.

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