

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- Please add to all event listings:

INTERNATIONALLY-ACCLAIMED PLAY, *WITH LOVE AND A MAJOR ORGAN*, RETURNS TO CANADA TO LAUNCH THE PRIMETIME FESTIVAL WITH TOP-NOTCH TEAM

A uniquely resonant comedy about emotion, connection, and the act of truly giving your heart away. Literally. Poetic and full of imagination, this internationally acclaimed play is perfectly suited to audio.

WITH LOVE AND A MAJOR ORGAN was the breakout hit at the 2012 Toronto Fringe. NOW Magazine called it, “[B]rash, poetic, and fiercely original”. Since, it has been produced and praised all over the United States and in Europe. Playwright Julia Lederer further developed the script in Los Angeles, at the Theatre @ Boston Court, as part of their 2017 Polly Warfield Award-winning season. After hit productions in LA, Chicago, Boise, Alaska, Paris, etc. this script has yet to be produced in Canada. Until now, as it returns to launch the new PRIMETIME FESTIVAL at Toronto Fringe, where it began almost a decade ago. Right now, this witty, beautiful, and ultimately hopeful piece is a needed reminder of the value of love and human connection, as we step cautiously back into our world feeling more disconnected than ever before.

This audio version was produced in September 2020, with the support of a Canada Council for the Arts, by a team of artists who were all supposed to be elsewhere: performing on Broadway, at Stratford, on tour. Circumstance (or COVID) is the reason this outstanding group was available to come together. With protocols, in a time when they had been told they had to stop creating, they created this piece.

Featuring **Michela Cannon** (Broadway’s *Harry Potter*), **Kaleb Alexander** (Shaw Festival 2021), **Jennifer Villaverde** (*Hana’s Suitcase*: Dora Winner), and **Fiona Reid** (Broadway’s *Harry Potter*, Order of Canada), with sound design by Pauline McGibbon Award-winner **Deanna H. Choi** and original music by **Matt Barber**, written and directed by the uniquely talented **Julia Lederer**, this audio drama adaptation is a wonderful way to bring WITH LOVE AND A MAJOR ORGAN home, in its fully realised form. This is a celebrated Canadian play that has never been in Canada. Now it will be accessible across the country.

QuestionMark-Exclamation Theatre

in association with **The Toronto Fringe Fringe Festival** presents...

WITH LOVE AND A MAJOR ORGAN: AN AUDIO PLAY

Written, Directed, and Produced by Julia Lederer

Starring Michela Cannon, Kaleb Alexander, Jennifer Villaverde, and Fiona Reid

Recorded by Evan Desjardins

Sound Design and Edit by Deanna H. Choi

Original Compositions by Matt Barber

Produced by Clara Altimas

Live Listening Party on **November 3rd**, streaming **November 4th - 28th, 2021** at fringetoronto.com
Tickets can be purchased online at fringetoronto.com

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