# studio180theatre

# A PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION ACCESS GUIDE



March 25 to April 20, 2025 Studio Theatre, Streetcar Crowsnest

We are excited for you to join us for the world premiere production of Jonathan Wilson's play, *A Public Display of Affection*. This access guide contains information about the show and the theatre to help prepare you for your visit with specific sensory details of programming in advance to help guide your experience.

Do you need more information?

Contact Jessica Greenberg, Director of Youth and Community Outreach **Email:** jessica@studio180theatre.com

Photo of Jonathan Wilson by Kevin Connery

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Photo of Jonathan Wilson by Sam Moffatt

# **OVERVIEW**

A Public Display of Affection invites audiences on a journey through playwright/performer Jonathan Wilson's youth and some of Toronto's Queer histories. In a deeply personal and virtuosic solo performance, Wilson mixes comedy, history and poignant reflection in equal measure, to excavate the lives, loves, and landmarks of his youth; looking back on his time as a high school drop-out in Toronto in the late 70s and early 80s and the challenges met (as well as the community formed) in the face of persecution, ostracization and the onset of the AIDS pandemic. Deftly inhabiting a cavalcade of characters, Wilson leads us on a wry and intimate exploration of the Village he once knew, the legacy it created, and the future being forged by a new generation.

# **CONTENT ADVISORY**

Very strong language including homophobic slurs; themes of death, loss, sexuality, homophobia, transphobia; mentions of sex work and sex trafficking, and violence including sexual and police violence, and violence against children. No violence, sexuality or nudity is depicted on stage. Recommended for 14+.

### **RUN TIME**

80 minutes with no intermission.

# ABOUT THE SHOW (continued...)

#### CAST

Jonathan Wilson as Himself – Actor and Playwright



#### **DESIGN ELEMENTS**

#### SET

The set is made up of a triangular platform on top of a rectangular platform. The rear of the set is made up of a bank of television screens in various positions. The staggered positioning of the televisions suggests a stylized cityscape that will display different images throughout the performance. There are no props and no set changes.



### COSTUME

Throughout the performance, Jonathan wears dark jeans, dark shoes and a muted, light-coloured sweater. There are no costume changes.

### LIGHTING

At one point in the performance, there are flashing lights on the screens. There is also a disco ball lighting effect.

### SOUND

There are moments with loud music and atmospheric sounds.



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# **ACCESS INFORMATION**

### **RELAXED ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE**

The performance of *A Public Display of Affection* on Saturday, April 12, at 2 PM is a Relaxed Environment (RE) performance.

A relaxed environment makes this performance more accessible to those who could benefit from a more open and flexible theatregoing experience. During a Relaxed Environment performance, an audience member can:

- exit and re-enter the theatre freely
- move around throughout the theatre
- make noise or sounds

A quiet space in the lobby will be provided for patrons. An Access Kit provided by The Disability Collective will be available at the box office before the show and in the quiet space during the show. This kit will be stocked with:

- Fidget toys
- Earplugs
- Magnifying sheets
- A whiteboard and markers
- Copies of the Access Guide
- Weighted lap pads

# **ACCESS INFORMATION (continued)**

Please note that there are no changes to the technical elements of the show (lighting and sound). Lights flash on television screens and there are sound cues with loud music and atmospheric sounds. At one point, there are flashing lights and a disco ball effect.

Studio 180 Theatre staff and members of The Disability Collective will be present at the theatre to assist you and answer any questions you may have. They will each have a name tag as seen here.



studio 180 theatre

### **MASKED PERFORMANCE**

Masks are required for the performance on Sunday, April 6 at 2 PM. Masks are optional and welcomed for all other performances. Jonathan, the solo actor in the show, will be unmasked throughout the performance.

## ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES

Assisted listening devices are available for all performances. Please visit the box office to request an assisted listening device.

# **AT THE THEATRE**

# **ABOUT THE STUDIO THEATRE**

The Studio Theatre is an 88-seat blackbox theatre. It is one of two theatres at Streetcar Crowsnest, the home of Crow's Theatre. The walls of the theatre are made from dark brown brick.

When you enter the theatre, the stage will be straight ahead and the seating will be to your right. The theatre is set up as a thrust stage with audience seating in front and to the left and right sides of the set. There are three rows of seating with one aisle in the centre section, and four rows of seating in the sections on the left and right. The seats are loose, black armless chairs. The first row of seating is on the same level as the stage, which is fully accessible and barrier-free.



# **BOX OFFICE**

When you enter the building, the box office will be directly ahead. You can pick up or purchase tickets (pending availability) at the box office. They can also assist you with priority seating and accessible seating.

A physical copy of the Access Guide will be made available at the Box Office on request.

A volunteer usher will scan your physical or virtual ticket at the entrance to the Studio Theatre.



### **ENTERING**

Streetcar Crowsnest Theatre is at 345 Carlaw Avenue, Toronto. The entrance is located on the east side of Carlaw Avenue, just north of Dundas Street East. After you enter the theatre, the box office will be straight ahead. The Studio Theatre, where *A Public Display of Affection* is playing, is located to your immediate left after you enter.



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On your right side, there is a large lobby where the bar is located. The bar will be serving drinks and snacks before the performance.



When you enter the building, ahead and to your left will be a set of stairs that lead to a set of washrooms. An accessible washroom is located on the ground floor. Turn right after the entrance, enter the main lobby and the accessible washroom is on the left.



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# **BEFORE THE SHOW**

Immediately after you enter the theatre you can do the following:

- Purchase or pick up tickets from the Box Office directly ahead.
- Head straight into the Studio Theatre on the left to grab a seat or engage with our Front of House staff to request support or ask any questions you may have. (The Studio Theatre will open its doors 30 minutes before the show begins. The show is general admission so you may choose a seat that best serves your needs.)
- Turn right to access the bar in the main lobby to purchase refreshments.
- Access the washrooms by stairs to the left of the box office. For the accessible washroom, turn right and enter the large lobby where the bar is located (the accessible washroom will be on the left).

# **MOBILITY DEVICE ACCESSIBILITY**

Streetcar Crowsnest is fully wheelchair accessible, and meets Ontario's building code standards. All entrances have pushbutton automated doors allowing for a barrier-free path of travel.

Paid parking is available on the P1 level of the complex, with elevator access to street level on Dundas Street East. An accessible washroom is available on the ground floor of the building.

If possible, please email <u>boxoffice@crowstheatre.com</u> or call the box office in advance to reserve a wheelchair accessible seat/s. The Crow's Theatre box office phone number is 647-341-7390 ext. 1010.



# We look forward to seeing you at the theatre!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Studio 180 Theatre's Director of Youth and Community Engagement, Jessica Greenberg, at jessica@studio180theatre.com

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