

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - MAY 14, 2019

Please include in all listings/announcements

What happens when an atheist discovers he's been chosen to deliver God's new commandment?

Simple Truth Theatre is proud to present *The Commandment*, a dark comedy written & performed by **Phil Rickaby**, & directed by **Richard Beaune**, and assistant direction from **Adrianna Prosser**, at the **Tarragon Theatre Extra Space** (30 Bridgman Ave.) as part of the **Toronto Fringe Festival**, from July 3 - 14, 2019. *The Commandment* is a comedic solo play, with a surprising emotional punch.

While the play is not autobiographical, it does draw lightly from Rickaby's own experiences (though not the part about talking to God). "I started writing *The Commandment* as a way to deal with the suicide of a loved one, to occupy my mind," Says Phil Rickaby, "It was supposed to be a silly play with a ridiculous premise, but as I wrote, my own anger and sorrow started to come out in the character of Thomas. It was through the writing of the play that I found some peace, and also learned to find humour and laughter again."

The Commandment has been seen at Fringe festivals in **Hamilton**, **Halifax**, and **Saint John** where it was named **Outstanding Solo Show**, and received rave reviews from both audiences and critics alike.

"A roller coaster" - ★★★★★ - **Grid City Magazine**

"[Phil] Rickaby has commanding stage presence and storytelling prowess" - ★★★★★ - **TWISI Theatre Blog**

"A well crafted story with surprising emotional impact" - **MonkeyBiz.ca**

"Highly Recommended" - **Raise the Hammer**

The Commandment

written & performed by Phil Rickaby

Directed by Richard Beaune | Asst. Director Adrianna Prosser

Stage Managed by Ryan Percival

Original trailer by Adrianna Prosser | Poster design by Phil Rickaby

Tarragon Theatre Extra Space - 30 Bridgman Ave.

Wednesday July 3 8:00pm

Friday July 5 5:00pm

Sunday July 7 2:00pm

Tuesday July 9 5:15pm

Thursday July 11 10:15pm

Saturday July 13 1:00pm

Sunday July 14 6:00pm

Tickets \$11 at the door or www.fringetoronto.com

www.simpletruththeatre.com

Twitter: [@philrickaby](https://twitter.com/philrickaby) • Instagram: [philrickaby](https://www.instagram.com/philrickaby) • #CommandmentTO

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