

## Still Your Friend in Press & Photos

### 2025 Shows - Afeni and Adam Bailey: My Three Deaths

#### *Afeni*

**Starring Onika Henry, Written and Directed by Adam Bailey**

**“Important, Significant, and Powerful” ★★★★★ – AYTC (Kylie Flanders)**

Using a simplistic set of a single black chair, the weight and impact Afeni’s life and struggles had on the progression of social justice is left to breathe and weigh upon the audience... The simplicity of the entire show provides the same effect, utilizing a single actress in a perfect, efficient manner, never bloating or watering down the events of Shakur’s life.



Onika Henry Stars as The Storyteller in AFENI

#### ***Adam Bailey: My Three Deaths***

**Written and Performed by Adam Bailey**

**Toronto Star Critic’s Pick and Toronto Fringe Patron’s Pick Winner**

“Long live Adam Bailey, Fringe veteran and master storyteller... Funny, profound and three-hankie moving: this Fringe show has it all.” — *Glenn Sumi, Toronto Star*

“A charming and laugh-out-loud funny celebration of life, love and mortality.” - *Robyn Grant-Moran, The Grind*

“A solid Fringe choice any year” – *Istvan Dugalin Theatre Review*

## Previous Hits

### ***The Assassination of Robert Ford: Dirty Little Coward***

**Winner: Best of Fringe (Toronto Fringe)**

Written & Directed by Adam Bailey

The Torontoist - ★★★★★

“There are some sobering ideas about the perils of conflating vengeance and justice, and how we can become what we hate when we are ruled by obsession. ...It’s a clever cautionary tale of the cyclical nature of hatred, which when acted on can turn inward” – Steve Fisher

The Charlabois Post

“Playwright Adam Bailey has cleverly taken a lesser-known tale and turned it into a tight show with passion, wit, and challenging ideals” -Keely Kwok



Mooney on Theatre - Staff Pick

“Adam Bailey wrote and directed the show and did both brilliantly. The script is smart, witty, and funny. The pacing of the show was perfect. The show is funny but not really a comedy; there are songs but it isn’t a musical; there are serious moments but sometimes it felt like a melodrama – in a good way.

The Assassination of Robert Ford is a seriously good production” – Sam Mooney

### ***Adam Bailey is On Fire***

**Written, Produced & Performed By Adam Bailey (Still Your Friend) Winner: Patrons Pick (Toronto Fringe)**

Edmonton Sun - ★★★★★1/2

Winnipeg Free Press - ★★★★★1/2

“An almost religious experience”



Vue Weekly - ★★★★★

“Adam Bailey’s tale feels like a high-speed rip through suburbia, turning from hilarious to heartfelt to hopeful at breakneck speeds. Bailey is a quick-witted and flexible storyteller... He sucks you right into what was happening with this personable, conspiratorial stage presence... Everywhere that it could have been cloying or cliché, this production was inventive and honest” — Sarah Culkin

Showbill.ca, Victoria

“*Adam Bailey is on Fire* stars the titular performer as he sings, dances and even strips his way to conveying the universal emotions within his work. Anyone who has ever felt alienation, discrimination or been the brunt of parent’s expectations needs to give this show a look.

This isn’t a straightforward one-man show as Bailey utilizes surreal vignettes of preachers and game shows to convey his feelings of isolation and discrimination....

Adam Bailey is on Fire is more than an important piece of LGBTQ theatre. The themes incorporated within this comedy/drama are so universal, you can’t help feel the highs of sorrow and lows of joy” – Joshua James Collis

## ***The Life Henri***

**Written, Performed and Produced by Adam Bailey**

Outstanding New Play, Outstanding Production - Now Magazine

Best of the Best – Saskatoon Star Phoenix

Vue Weekly - ★★★★★

“Bailey draws from popular culture and his sheer presence to deliver a performance both comedic and tragically relatable. Instead of focusing on props and special effects, Bailey relies on his charisma, strong audience interaction and a series of paintings and other images (depicted through a projector) to capture the audience’s attention”. – Chris Berthelot Saskatoon



Star-Phoenix - ★★★★★

“With little more than a laptop and projector, Adam Bailey tells the story of French painter Henri Rousseau, capably weaving in stories of his own upbringing and scenes from Stephen King’s *Carrie*. It doesn’t sound like it will work, but thanks to Bailey’s knack for storytelling you hang on his every word” - Stephanie McKay

Now Magazine – **NNNN (Outstanding New Play & Outstanding Production)**

“A brilliant recreation of the infamous Rousseau Banquet, hosted by Picasso.

What makes the show even more poignant is that Bailey interweaves stories of his own life and feelings of being an outsider. The deeper theme is what it takes for an artist to create, despite economic uncertainties, the vagaries of fashion and criticism and the cruelty of humanity”- Glenn Sumi

***The Truth™***

**Written and Performed by Adam Bailey**

**WINNER: Jenny Award for Outstanding Solo Performer (Winnipeg Fringe)**

The Winnipeg Free Press - ★★★★★

“Bailey’s a talented storyteller whose personality bubbles but never boils over. A self-described “former gifted student,” he delves into myriad topics — philosophy, LGBTTTQ+ history, religion, anthropology, biology, addiction — as he comedically wrestles with what it means to be honest and true to thine own self.

His central thesis isn’t new, but it is meaningful, especially in what some refer to as a “post-truth” era: Facts don’t move people. Stories do. What a pleasure to listen to someone equally adept in sharing both.” - Ben Waldman

Edmonton Journal - ★★★★★

“Bailey shines as an extremely talented, bubbly storyteller”. – Tisha Raj

UMFM Review

“In our fractured society, Adam Bailey explores what is the truth and does telling the truth matter any more? He explores how the truth has been obscured, some-times even for good purposes. Using exam-ples from his-to-ry and his own life, combined with philosophy and sociology, Bailey presents a compelling look into the truth. An interesting story told with energy makes for a wonderful Fringe show that I recommend you see”. – Justin Olynyk

**Franz Ferdinand Must Die**

Winnipeg Free Press ★★★★★

“Eerily entertaining, and notably enhanced by exceptional ambient music and sound design from Toronto composer and actor Alex Eddington” - Pat St. Germain

CBC ★★★★★

“Bailey tells the story of Gavrilo Princip, the Bosnian Serb who shot Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand. He dives deep into Princip’s life and the world around him — and how a disaffected 19-year-old changed the world.

Franz Ferdinand Must Die is overall absorbing — and pierces into a fascinating piece of history” - Joff Schmidt

Edmonton Journal ★★★★★

“Bailey’s story is filled with real people with real emotions, dreams, fears and motivations. You may not know why the place is filled with a myriad of religions all jostling for space, but you will certainly feel for those caught up in all of that geopolitical posturing” – Justin Bell

Saskatoon Star-Phoenix

“Sometimes narrating and sometimes assuming the role of a historical character, Bailey relies on minimal props, effective lighting and creeping music to recount the world-changing event... a historical tour de force in recounting how “a weak boy” changed European history” – Phil Tank

### ***The ABCs of Love with Adult Baby Cupid***

**Co-Written, Co-Directed, Co-Produced and Performed by Adam Bailey with Kristin Mueller-Heaslip (Still Your Friend)**

My Entertainment World (B)

“The material is timely and the take on it surprisingly astute as Cupid and Kristin arrive at the conclusion that maybe women are better equipped to answer questions about love and relationships themselves. Opera-trained Heaslip plays the straight man to Bailey’s clownish character, and sets the scene nicely before the show begins by singing classical versions of romantic songs in a sweet soprano” - Chelsea Dinsmore



The View (Hamilton)

“Beyond its face values, ABCs calls forth relevant issues in sex, love and dating that are current” - Rossen Lee

Mooney on Theatre (Rave Review)

“I plan to tell everyone I know to go and see it. It’s fun and funny, a great way to spend an hour” – Sam Mooney

## ***All Hail Mrs. Satan***

### ***Written and Performed by Adam Bailey***

#### The Jenny Revue

“Adam Bailey is in great form, as always, keeping up with his specialty in fast paced historical fiction. Following Victoria Woodhull’s life from a kaleidoscope of different perspectives and jumping throughout her life, from feminist activist to stockbroker to magnetic healer to presidential nominee, Adam keeps the energy up and ties together the threads into a coherent and engaging picture of this woman’s life.

Great for fans of historical storytelling and the uninitiated as well, this is definitely a wonderful way to start engaging with the work of a long term Fringe staple”. - Josh Fidelak

#### Istvan Reviews

“Woodhull herself is only glimpsed through anecdotes and narration as scandals are stirred up, tempers flare and pearls are clutched.

There are two distinctly resonant moments that make her a startling, intimate presence. During one of her speeches, Bailey portrays an infatuated Isabella Beecher gripping a curtain with wide-eyed admiration as she listens from the wings. And when he finally embodies Woodhull herself, it is to remind us of the original, true meaning of the Icarus myth in a lovely bit of poetic reclamation”. – Istvan Dugalin