

# THE TORONTO FRINGE FESTIVAL PRESENTS **DIDN'T HURT**

Wednesday, July 3 @ 9:45pm

Saturday, July 6 @ 12:45pm

Sunday, July 7 @ 5:30pm

Tuesday, July 9 @ 3:00pm

Thursday, July 11 @ 6:15pm

Friday, July 12 @ 9:30pm

Saturday, July 13 @ 8:30pm

**RUNTIME:** 75 minutes

**VENUE:** Tarragon Theatre Extraspace  
30 Bridgeman Ave, Ontario, M5R 1X3  
[fringetoronto.com](http://fringetoronto.com)



Directed by revered fringe legend **TJ Dawe**, playwright and actor **Rodney DeCroat** tells his own story of growing up poor in a hard-as-nails working class neighborhood in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and isolated in the bush of Northern B.C. amidst violence, addiction, suicidal thoughts, and being raised by a Vietnam war vet. DeCroat's story moves through his life from childhood (a tobacco-chewing 6-year-old boy who desperately wants to be a cowboy), to his anti-social adolescence, and finally, to his adulthood (how to destroy your music career and alienate your friends). His story is about toxic masculinity and learning to recover from it. It's about being accountable, healing, and forgiveness. *Didn't Hurt* looks at how PTSD can be named, harnessed, and exercised through art, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, and connecting with others.

**Rodney DeCroat** is an acclaimed Vancouver-based poet, singer-songwriter, playwright and actor with several collections of poetry and studio albums to his name. *Didn't Hurt* is his second one-man show.

**TJ Dawe** is veteran of numerous Toronto Fringe Festivals, with shows such as *The Slipknot*, *Labrador*, *Medicine*, and many others.

*Decroo can create a crystal-clear scene, rich in detail. From a child's hero worship of cowboys to an adult getting a life-changing massage, the audience is there with him.*

– **ORLANDO SENTINEL**

*A creative powerhouse.*

– **CANADIAN BEATS**

*An intensely brave and heroic one-man show. There wasn't a moment during the entire hour when I wasn't completely riveted. Highly recommended.*

– **EDDIE SELOVER, PECHAKUCHA ORLANDO**

*A heart wrenchingly rough coming-of-age story.*

– **VUE MAGAZINE**

*A really insightful look into how PTSD develops, manifests and can be tamed. So yes, it's heavy, and also touching and, for me, helpful. It's given me even more space for compassion.*

– **SUNNI SARA VONMUTIUS, ANTISURVIVAL GUIDE**

*An unassuming yet mesmerizing performer.*

– **WINNIPEG FREE PRESS**

*Few artists risk attempting it: turning something profoundly and deeply painful into a work of transformative beauty.*

– **GEORGIA STRAIGHT**