

**PRESS RELEASE:**

June 11, 2019

## **Established Comedian to Perform in Toronto Fringe as a Winner of Inaugural Accessibility Lottery**

Multiple limb amputee COURTNEY GILMOUR has taken Canadian comedy by storm, despite physical disabilities that to some might seem debilitating. Her one-woman show *'Congratulations'* will premiere at the TARRAGON THEATRE as part of the TORONTO FRINGE FESTIVAL, 2019.

The Fringe Festival Accessibility Lottery places selected artists in accessible/semi-accessible venues and provides a \$1000 bursary during pre-production.

*'Congratulations'* is a heartfelt and laugh-filled story of achievement, embarrassment, and self-worth told through GILMOUR's personal and professional milestones. GILMOUR (*JFL42 Headliner, Winner 2017 Just For Laughs Homegrown Competition, CBC LOL, Sirius XM*) reveals the lows of insecurity and depression while at the height of success, and shares her bumpy journey towards finding self-love. As she navigates emotional meltdowns in McDonald's to a mortifying encounter after buying a cat stroller, GILMOUR uses her experiences to explore what "congratulations!" accolades really mean to her.

"I wanted to create a show that celebrates achievement but also illuminates the struggle of defining what that actually is. People with disabilities are under estimated on a daily basis, so I want to share how that feels and how it's affected the way I approach my goals "

In the wake of paraplegic ALI STROKER's pivotal Tony Award win this week, attention is turning to the accessibility of theatre venues, off and **on the stage**. TARRAGON THEATRE will host GILMOUR for the Fringe run— a venue that has yet to meet the criteria to deem it a 'fully accessible space', even after major renovations.

*Congratulations* is written by GILMOUR and directed by esteemed Fringe Festival veteran, comedian PHIL LUZI (*Netflix, CBC, Funny Or Die*).

**WHAT:** Congratulations! (45-60 min.)

**WHERE:** Tarragon Theatre Solo Room, 30 Bridgman Ave. Toronto

**WHEN:**

Wednesday, July 3	8:15 PM	Wednesday, July 10	10:00 PM
Friday, July 5	6:30 PM	Friday, July 12	8:45 PM
Sunday, July 7	1:30 PM	Saturday, July 13	5:00 PM
Monday, July 8	7:30 PM	Sunday, July 14	2:45 PM

Courtney Gilmour is available for interviews.

For Inquiries/Press Tickets Contact Jenna Warriner at [jenna.warriner@gmail.com](mailto:jenna.warriner@gmail.com)

More Information: <https://fringetoronto.com/fringe/show/congratulations>