

TORONTO
FRINGE
FESTIVAL

EXCHANGE OF WORDS

a play by
danny sylvan

JULY 2-11, 2026 | SOULPEPPER RBC FINANCE STUDIO



GOLDENBERG
PRODUCTIONS



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ENTERTAINMENT

A NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

In creating the world of EX-Change of Words, I drew loose inspiration from true events, and from years of dating as a gay/queer man in Toronto. I ideated the plot back in 2017 while I was studying playwriting and new play dramaturgy at York University. After years of sitting on the idea, I finally started drafting the script in 2023 through until the summer of 2025, when I felt that this play was finally ready for an audience to consume. It is hard to put into words how elated I am to have this piece come to fruition and get the opportunity to be mounted at the Toronto Fringe Festival. I am elated that my queer, black narrative and perspective will be illustrated live for an audience to enjoy and to explicate. The characters that I have written are complex, with full, complicated histories. They challenge the question, can you truly be friends with your ex? My hope is that in some moments you love these characters and their stories, and in others, you are enraged by them. My hope is that this piece elicits a wide range of emotions from its audiences, and that conversations surrounding its themes of interracial relationships, age-gap dating, grief, and so much more, continue beyond exiting the theatre doors.



With much love and appreciation,
Danny Sylvan
Creator, EX-Change of Words Play

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

EXCHANGE OF WORDS

THE CAST

RYAN KELLY.....CURTIS
DANNY SYLVAN.....DERRICK

THE TEAM

ALYSSA CURTO.....SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
HUSSEIN ESMAIL.....LIGHTING DESIGNER
BRIAN GOLDENBERG.....CONSULTING PRODUCER
PAULINA LUCIANI.....PRODUCER
ZACHARY MANSFIELD.....PRODUCER/SOUND DESIGN
PASHA MCKENLEY.....DIRECTOR/DRAMATURG
SHANIA MENDES.....STAGE MANAGER
KRISTEN PEPPER.....INTIMACY DIRECTOR
COLLETTE RADEAU.....DRAMATURG
DANNY SYLVAN.....PLAYWRIGHT/PRODUCER/SET DESIGN

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO READ
THE FULL TEAM BIOS!**



EXCHANGE OF WORDS

COULDN'T BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT:

Buddies In Bad Times Theatre

Craig's Cookies

Nathanael Judah

Mark Keller

Kaori Lim

Ontario HIV Treatment Network

Ricky Sylvan

Vanier College Productions

~ view full list in digital program ~

OUR FRINGE RECOMMENDATIONS:

THE WOUNDS OF LOVE AND OTHER GIFTS

WILL AND THE AMAZINGLY OBSESSIVE
THEATRICAL VINYL COLLECTION