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GENDER PLAY

or, what you Will

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We at the Indianapolis Shakespeare Company acknowledge that the land we gather on is the stolen land of native people, the Miami and Kickapoo. We acknowledge that it is only through their loss that we have the privilege to be here. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the indigenous peoples past and present who have stewarded it throughout the generations and we hope that through our creative work we will be able to honor their land and their people, past, present and future. These truths call us all to commit to listening, learning, and building equitable systems so we can move toward a better future.

TAKE OUR POST-SHOW SURVEY! CLICK HERE.

INDY SHAKES THANKS THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT



Grant Funders:

- Christel Dehaan Family Foundation Inc.
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- Arts Midwest
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- Nickel Plate Arts: Activities are made possible by the Nickel Plate Arts and the Indiana Arts Commission, which receives support from the State of Indiana and the National Endowment for the Arts.
- Indy Arts Council and the City of Indianapolis
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**GENDER
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A HUGE THANK YOU TO...

- Sarah and John Lechleiter
- William Powell and Paul Pickett
- Dr Scott Reef & Dr. Girish Vitalpur
- Martha O'Connor and Greg Henneke
- Taylor Family Foundation
- Scott Putney and Susan Sawyer
- Helmi and Ron Banta
- Lauren Morris and Cole Goetzler
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+ Many others



YOUR SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL!

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Winter Olamina

National Bank of Indianapolis
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Lauren Morris and Cole Goetzler
Rachelle Martin



PRESENTED BY



Gender Play, or what you Will

Co-created by Will Wilhelm and Erin Murray

Directed by Emily Tarquin

Featuring Will Wilhelm

Creative Team

Production Designer
Costume Designer for Will Wilhelm
Lighting Designer
Composers
Sound Designer
Assistant Sound Designer / Sound Engineer
Props Coordinator
Costumes & Scenic Associate
Production Manager
Head Electrician
Technical Director
Magic Consultant
Scenic Artist
Additional Prop Artisan
Costumes Assistant
Stage Manager
PA
PA/Understudy

Caitlin Ayer
Winter Olamina
Tim Dick
Rhythm Science Sound
Bailey Trierweiler
Ben Dobler
Rachelle Martin
Lane Fiorini
Becky Roebler
Paully Crumpacker
Nick Kilgore
Taylor Martin
Laura Gordon
Jocelyn Sparkles
Tonie Smith
Emily Root
Senaite Tekle
Beks Roen

MEET THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

Cast



Will Wilhelm (they/them) – Actor/Playwright – is a trans/non-binary actor, writer, and educator based in Chicago. Will is the co-creator and performer of *Gender Play*, or what you Will, which premiered with About Face Theatre and garnered the artist two Jeff Award nominations: Best Solo Performance & Best New Work. A Michigan native, Will became the first openly non-binary company member at Oregon Shakespeare Festival in 2018, where they reimaged genderqueer characters in *As You Like It*, *Macbeth*, and Bill Rauch's *Oklahoma!* Other credits include Portland Center Stage, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Steppenwolf Theatre, Goodman Theatre, Theater Wit, Oak Park Festival Theatre, and Chicago Children's Theatre. A proud Northwestern graduate, Will is represented by Gray Talent Group. IG: @mx.willwilhelm www.WillWilhelm.com.

Crew



Emily Root – Stage Manager – For the past 4 years, Emily has been working in the Indy area, mainly Assistant Stage Managing for the Phoenix Theatre for shows such as *Alabaster*, *Love Bird*, *The Magnolia Ballet*, *Tick Tick Boom*, and *A Very Phoenix XMAS: The Return of a Very Phoenix Xmas*, and recently Stage Managed *White City Murders*. Previously, she has also stage managed for American Lives Theatre's shows *Sanctuary City*, *Spay*, and *What the Constitution Means to Me*. Emily sends all her love and appreciation to Carlos, Arrietty, and Diego. Hi, Korah!



Beks Roen (they/he) – Production Assistant / Understudy – is a queer Shakespeare nerd & sword-wielding chaos goblin from Indiana focused on adventurous connection. He uses his acting, writing and teaching skills to show people they're not alone. An internationally published poet, Roen's work can be seen in *The NonBinary Review*, *Querencia Press*, *Beyond the Veil Press*, *Anodyne Magazine* & more. In theatre, Roen has worked with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival, Great Lakes Theater, Purdue Theatre, the Hoosier Shakespeare Festival, the Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette, the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, & more.



Senaite Tekle – Production Assistant / DJ – Senaite (Seni) Tekle is an Indianapolis native. She graduated with a degree in Theatre with a concentration in Performance/Directing from the University of Indianapolis 2021. She's worked on numerous projects in Indianapolis including stage managing *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* with American Lives Theatre (2022), *Predictor* with American Lives Theatre (2023), and performed in *Sanctuary City* with American Lives Theatre (2023). This her second project with Indianapolis Shakespeare Company, the first being *Mojada* (2023). Her focus is performance although she has a love and appreciation for stage management.

MEET THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

Creative Team



Emily Tarquin (they/them) – Director – is the Interim Managing Director at Actors Theatre of Louisville and a CSA Casting Director. Select directing credits include *Won't you be my May-bor?* by Andrew Schafflein and Eric Sharp (produced by Drag Daddy Productions in partnership with Actors Theatre); *Drag Machine* which they co-created with Shirley Delta Blow (Denver Center Off-Center), *Fuddy Meers* by David Lindsay-Abaire (Phamaly Theatre Company), and *Cult Following*, which was a live-directed improvised show that ran for 6 years (Denver Center Off-Center). Tarquin is an active Board Member and Librarian with the Louisville Tool Library and Co-Chair of Outreach with Phans for Racial Equity.



Caitlin Ayer (she/her) – Production designer & Designer of Crew & Audience Costumes – designs sets & costumes for plays, tv/film, musicals, opera, and live events. Recent/favorite design credits include *EVIL* (Set Designer, S2-4, CBS); *ONLY MURDERS IN THE BUILDING* (Set Designer, S3&5, Hulu); *UnCOUPLED* (Art Director, S1, Netflix); *GODFATHER OF HARLEM* (Set Designer, S3-4, MGM+); *WILLA'S AUTHENTIC SELF* (Production Designer, Lisa Clair Group); *THE RENDER* (Art Director, Big Art Group @ Teatro Nazionale, Venice); *SOME LIKE IT HOT* (Asst Set Designer, Broadway); 5 Seasons with the Colorado Shakespeare Festival (Resident Set Designer). Recipient of 2 Henry Hewes noms, Henry Award for Best Scenic Design, the Rose Brand Scene Design Award. Proud member of USA 829. BFA Webster University. MFA Carnegie Mellon University. www.caitlinayer.com.



Winter Olamina (they/them) – Costume Designer for Will Wilhelm – is a Chicago-based artist. Design credits include *LONDON ROAD*, *STEW* (Shattered Globe Theater), *DOLLS HOUSE*, *THE MOUNTAIN TOP*, *STEW*, *HOW TO CATCH CREATION*, *HOME*, and *UNDERNEATH THE LINTEL* (Milwaukee Chamber Theater) *PASSING STRANGE* (Theo Ubuque). *THE AMAZING LEMONADE GIRL* (First Stage), *DRAGON PACK SNACK ATTACK* (Hope Summer Rep), *ARCADIA* (UChicago), *MONTEVERDI'S L'INCORONAZIONE DI POPPEA*, (CCPA) winterolamina.com



Rhythm Science Sound: Scz (pronounced seize) and Jared Zarantonello (Yared Sound). – **Composers** – RSS is a Louisville-based music collective and social enterprise comprised of sound artists, deejays, and music technology educators who are working to preserve, develop and forward the culture of global dance music. Rhythm Science Sound has produced original compositions and sound designs for the theatrical productions *Hype Man*, *Beyond the Crossroads*, *Journeys to Freedom*, *Code Switch*, *Jacked!*, *La Egoista*, *Loving and Loving* and are honored and proud to debut work for *Gender Play*. To find out more about Rhythm Science Sound's work, please visit www.rhythmssciencesound.com

MEET THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

Creative Team



Tim Dick (they/them) - Lighting Designer - is an Indianapolis based Lighting designer and the technical director for The Phoenix Theatre Cultural Center. They are excited to work with IndyShakes again! Originally from Indianapolis, they have designed and worked in San Francisco and New York. Since returning to Indy in 2020, they have been hard at work bringing scripts to life through lighting and supporting local theatre on the technical side. Occasionally, they can be found teaching lighting design and tech courses at the University of Indianapolis as an adjunct professor. They have designed for The Phoenix Theatre, American Lives Theatre, Actors Theatre of Indiana, Naptown African American Theatre Collective, Eclipse, University of Indianapolis, Crossroads Repertory Theatre, Dance Revelations, Indiana State University, Southbank, Catalyst, Dance iibada, Theatre Unchained, and more.



Bailey Trierweiler & Uptownworks - Sound Designer - UptownSound led by Bailey Trierweiler, Daniela Hart and Noel Nichols is a collaborative design team specializing in theater, film, podcasts installations and other media. Select sound design highlights include Tiny Father (Geffen Playhouse); Las Borinqueñas (EST); Importance of Being Earnest (Pittsburgh Public Theatre/Baltimore Center Stage); Murder on the Orient Express (Syracuse Stage); Lady Day (Baltimore Center Stage); Tiny Father (Barrington Stage/Chautauqua); Avaaz (South Coast Rep); Singularity Play (HarvardTDM); Black Odyssey (Classic Stage); Espejos:Clean (Hartford Stage/Syracuse Stage); the ripple, the wave... (Berkeley Rep /Goodman); Complicity Island (Audible); Fires in the Mirror (Baltimore Center Stage/Long Wharf Theatre). Bailey, Daniela & Noel received their MFAs in Sound Design from the Yale School of Drama



Ben Dobler (he/him) - Associate Sound Designer & Sound Technician - is an Indianapolis-based designer and technician specializing in sound, video, and lighting. His work has been featured at Phoenix Theatre, American Lives Theatre, Fonseca Theatre, Summit Performance, Constellation Stage & Screen, Cardinal Stage, Eclipse, Summer Stock Stage, and Actors Theatre of Indiana, among others.

MEET THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

Creative Team



Taylor Martin - Magic consultant – Taylor has been entertaining people since the age of four years old when he made a baby laugh. Since then he has done magic all over the United States & Canada. As Andrea Merlyn, the Queen of Magic, he has appeared in several Indy Fringe festivals and has been part of Fringe since 2005. He cites his influences as being Frank Zappa, Penn and Teller, and his wife for 47 years, Deborah. He will be appearing at the Spirit of Vincennes rendezvous this Labor Day weekend as Rodney the Younger, Conjurer. His motto is “Veritas Fallendo”, “Truth by means of deception.”



Nick Kilgore - Technical Director – is currently working for the Indiana Repertory Theatre as the Automation/ Scene Shop Supervisor. This summer will be his first season as Technical Director for Summer Stock Stage. His previous endeavors have included working for Illinois Central college as Technical Director for their Performing Arts Center in East Peoria, Illinois, working as Technical Director for Heartland Theatre Company in Normal, Illinois as well as Designing and Building for Community Players Theatre, Heartland Theatre Company, Texas Shakespeare Festival, Catalyst Repertory Theatre and Summer Stock Stage. Nick would like to thank his friends, family, and Kayla for all their support throughout his theatrical career.

PLEASE DONATE!

With Indy Shakes, Central Indiana gets an organization that takes live theater and education into a variety of settings, from the Phoenix Theatre to the Taggart Memorial Amphitheatre to schools across Central Indiana ... but we can't do it without the direct support of people like you. Please play a role today by making a donation [HERE](#).

**GENDER
PLAY**

GENDER PLAY, OR WHAT YOU WILL



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT.



POST-SHOW DISCUSSIONS

- **Friday, April 11** – Alan Witchey, Damien Center
- **Sunday, April 13** – Hudson Gaunt, Indy Pride
- **Thursday, April 17** – Zoe O’Haillin-Berne, Indiana Youth Group
- **Friday, 4/18** – Krizstina Inskeep, GEKCO (Gender Expanding Kids & Co.)
- **Saturday, April 19** – Chris Daley-Graham, ACLU Indiana
- **Sunday, April 20** – Jenni White, Trinity Haven
- **Thursday, April 24** – Emma Vosicky, GenderNexus
- **Sunday, April 27** – Connor Tiffany & Michael Martin Drain, Step Up



RESOURCES COURTESY OF



Indy Pride, Inc. exists to unite and serve its members and the LGBTQ community of Central Indiana through leadership development, educational and support programs, and community events that achieve inclusivity, equality, strong community connections, and awareness of LGBTQ issues.



Trinity Haven provides transitional housing options and supportive services to LGBTQ+ young people between the ages of 18-24 who are experiencing housing instability due to familial rejection - just for being who they are. Because they are LGBTQ+, they are not accepted by their own families, so we exist to help them learn how to become independent, thriving young adults in the face of adversity. More information may be found at www.trinityhavenindy.org.



Step-Up, Inc. was founded in 2003 by two community members who saw the effects of HIV on their family, friends, and neighbors and decided to do something about it. One of them, Paula French, even lost her younger brother Steve to the epidemic in 1994. Although Step-Up has grown over the years, the principles we bring to our work remain the same.

Step-Up is focused on improving the health of the underserved and marginalized communities by meeting our clients where they are at, opposing inequity and stigma, and empowering individuals. Step-Up, Inc. expanded from a two-person operation into a robust agency that provides prevention, education, care coordination, medical case management, and counseling to a wide array of vulnerable members in our community.



Since 2014, GenderNexus has served Indiana as a safe, inclusive space for gender-diverse people and their loved ones to find the support they need. Our work helps gender-diverse people overcome social and systemic barriers through education, community, and direct support. Whether you're navigating a legal name change or looking for a community that understands you, we can help. Services for our clients are 100% free, always.



The ACLU of Indiana works in all 92 Indiana counties to protect and win back state and federal constitutional rights for all Hoosiers.

RESOURCES COURTESY OF

INDY PRIDE



Indy Pride, Inc. exists to unite and serve its members and the LGBTQ community of Central Indiana through leadership development, educational and support programs, and community events that achieve inclusivity, equality, strong community connections, and awareness of LGBTQ issues.

CAFE OZTARA



Cafe Oztara - Located on the Damien Center Campus, our cafe serves as a sanctuary: a place to gather, connect, and find community outside the typical queer bar scene. Whether you're stopping by for coffee, attending an event, or simply seeking a space where you can really be yourself, you'll find a warm welcome at Cafe Oztara.



DAMIEN CENTER

Damien Center provides comprehensive health care, education, and services for all people living with or at risk for HIV and any person seeking a safe and welcoming home for care. Our programs include a food pantry, housing assistance, medical care, mental health, a pharmacy, employment services, and much more. By bringing all these services under one roof in a one-stop shop, we aim to meet people where they are and uphold the dignity and agency of each individual.



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**2025 INDY PRIDE COURT, LOCAL AND REGIONAL ARTISTS,
DRAG PERFORMERS & MORE**



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gender-diverse people
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live healthy, authentic,
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Since 2014, GenderNexus has served Indiana as a safe, inclusive space for gender-diverse people and their loved ones to find the support they need.



100% Free Services

- Care Coordination
- Counseling and Community Groups
- Education and Advocacy

By supporting our mission, you can help ensure that transgender, nonbinary, and gender-diverse people in Indiana have access to gender-affirming healthcare, counseling, and a safe community that may not otherwise exist.

Learn more by visiting www.GenderNexus.org

CAFE OZTARA

COFFEE • COMMUNITY • COMFORT

More than just a coffee shop, **Cafe Oztara's** mission is deeply intertwined with that of the Damien Center: to provide services, education, and advocacy for all people living with or at risk for HIV.

MONDAY - FRIDAY
7 A.M. - 3 P.M.

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x





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www.trinityhavenindy.org



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We are a peer-led, confidential support group
for families of transgender, nonbinary, and
gender expansive kids. We connect families with
resources and each other.





SPECIAL THANKS

The Staff of the Phoenix Theatre Cultural Center

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Will Skidmore

Lara Schmutte

Nora Woodman

Mariah Oliver

The Indy Shakes Board

The Indy Shakes Company

GENDER PLAY

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