

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 26, 2013

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WHAT: *Tap Me on the Shoulder*
a new play from Pack of Others
written & performed by Erika Kate MacDonald
part of the Edmonton Fringe Festival

**WHERE: Venue 4 –
Academy at King Edward School**
8525 101 Street
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

WHEN: Seven (7) performances
Friday, August 16 at 11:00pm
Saturday, August 17 at 4:30pm
Sunday, August 18 at 8:00pm
Monday, August 19 at 6:30pm
Tuesday, August 20 at noon
Wednesday, August 21 at 2:00pm
Thursday, August 22 at 9:30pm

TICKETS: \$10/\$7
Reduced Admission for Students and Seniors
www.fringetheatre.ca

“Simultaneously Unique and Completely Natural”

Part of The Edmonton Fringe Festival, August 15-25, 2013

(EDMONTON, ALBERTA) Pack of Others makes their Edmonton Fringe debut with ***TAP ME ON THE SHOULDER***. Rap is the focus of Erika Kate MacDonald’s “**earnest and eloquent**” one-woman show that delighted Montreal press earlier this summer: “**Don’t let this gem slip by unnoticed!**” (*Bloody Underrated*) Part of the Edmonton Fringe Festival, ***TAP ME ON THE SHOULDER*** runs August 16th to 22nd at Venue 4, the Academy at King Edward School.

Loosely structured as a 10-step lesson plan for “How to Become a Rapper,” ***TAP ME ON THE SHOULDER*** follows one nerdy white girl’s coming-of-age journey from the granite hills of New Hampshire to the fifth-floor walk-up vistas of Brooklyn. Against a backdrop of fast-paced NYC sidewalks and intimate living room listening parties, the rap “lessons” cover a surprisingly wide range of material, from “queer time” in conversational styles, to Indonesian traditional dance, to a Shakespeare-inspired close reading of ‘90s rap classic Illmatic.

“***Tap Me on the Shoulder* is a play about the ways that we surprise ourselves,**” says playwright/performer MacDonald. “Do I want people to leave my show feeling empowered to go and start writing their own raps? No, not necessarily. Though they often tell me that they do! The show is set up and billed as a “lesson” – ten steps to become a rapper. But I use that frame intentionally and not without irony, because it quickly becomes clear that this is not exactly an instruction manual.”

MacDonald, whose past solo work has been hailed as “**smart and comic**” (*Curve Magazine*, “**Top Ten Hottest Lesbian Plays**”), is exploring a pared-down performance style and a subtler comedy with this piece. And audiences have been responding: “**Erika is an exceptional performer and tells her story with a flair that is simultaneously unique and completely natural.**” (*Montreal Fringe NetBuzz*)

TAP ME ON THE SHOULDER had its New York City premiere in March of this year, at legendary experimental theater Dixon Place. The summer tour includes stops in Montreal, Chicago, and Edmonton.

ABOUT PACK OF OTHERS

Pack of Others is a Brooklyn-based theater company, founded in 2007 by Sophie Nimmannit and Erika Kate MacDonald. The Pack has won recognition at many festivals (**Best Comedy**, San Francisco Fringe; **Encore Award**, Boulder Fringe; **Director’s Choice**, Montreal Harvest Festival). Past shows include *FLUID* and *Peg-ass-us*. For further information, visit Pack of Others’ website: packofothers.org