Broadway Tour Casting Announced for Special 2020 Tony Award Winner FREESTYLE LOVE SUPREME

Conceived by Anthony Veneziale Created by Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Anthony Veneziale Directed by Thomas Kail

Playing Seattle Rep February 16-March 13; tickets are on sale now at SeattleRep.org



(L to R) Chris Sullivan, Wayne Brady, Anthony Veneziale, Aneesa Folds, and Kurt Crowley (on keyboard) in Freestyle Love Supreme at the Booth Theatre. Photo by Joan Marcus.

SEATTLE, WA (December 10, 2021) -- Seattle Rep is excited to share casting news for the highly-anticipated Broadway tour of the critically-acclaimed improv sensation *Freestyle Love Supreme*, conceived by **Anthony Veneziale** and created by **Thomas Kail**, **Lin-Manuel Miranda**, and **Anthony Veneziale**. *Freestyle Love Supreme* is an intermission-less, roller-coaster ride of a show that *Rolling Stone* calls "pure joy" and *Entertainment Weekly* describes as "lightning in a bottle." Single tickets for the Seattle run of *Freestyle Love Supreme* are on sale now for shows running February 16-March 13, 2022 on the Bagley Wright stage. Purchase tickets online at *SeattleRep.org*, or by calling the Patron Services Office at 206.443.2224.

Created before *In the Heights* and *Hamilton* and directed by Kail, *Freestyle Love Supreme* is a thrilling, improvised musical comedy show that features talented performers providing non-stop action throughout this fast-paced evening, spinning suggestions from the audience into humorous bits, instantaneous songs and riffs, and fully realized musical numbers. The electrifying vocals of the performers – from singing to rapping to beat-boxing with harmonies and freestyle flow – are backed by tight tunes from keyboards and human percussion. The show is created live every night with the audience contributing words, ideas and inspiration. No two shows are ever the same.

Freestyle Love Supreme's company on tour includes Andrew Bancroft AKA "Jelly Donut;" Jay C. Ellis AKA "Jellis;" Aneesa Folds AKA "Young Nees;" Kaila Mullady AKA Kaiser Rözé;" Morgan Reilly AKA "Hummingbird;" Chris Sullivan AKA "Shockwave;" and Anthony Veneziale AKA "Two-Touch."



[WATCH] A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT TO SEATTLE FROM THE TOURING CAST

Special spontaneous and unannounced guests from Seattle are planned for select performances during the run and also may include *Freestyle Love Supreme* members Lin-Manuel Miranda, Christopher Jackson, Daveed Diggs, James Monroe Iglehart, Wayne Brady, Ashley Pérez Flanagan, Arthur Lewis, Bill Sherman, Utkarsh Ambudkar, Alex Lacamoire, and many more.

In name and beyond, *Freestyle Love Supreme* pays homage to John Coltrane's "A Love Supreme" with a nod to musical roots in jazz, soul, blues and hip-hop. *Freestyle Love Supreme* was originally developed and produced in 2004 by Ars Nova, in association with Jill Furman and Back House Productions. The show has played in all five boroughs and many states, as well as

the U.S. Comedy Festival, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Melbourne Comedy Festival, and the Montreal Just for Laughs Festival. Hulu premiered the documentary "We Are Freestyle Love Supreme" at the Sundance Film Festival in 2020 and the acclaimed film was nominated for a Grammy Award. Watch the 2021 Tony Award closing performance performed by FLS <u>here</u>. Watch *Freestyle Love Supreme* on NBC's In the Wings special <u>here</u>.

Freestyle Love Supreme features set design by **Beowulf Boritt**; costume design by **Lisa** Zinni; lighting design by **Jeff Croiter**; and sound design by **Nevin Steinberg**. Andy Jones and James Hickey are Executive Producers. General Management provided by **Baseline** Theatrical.

FOR EDITORS/PRODUCERS WHAT: *Freestyle Love Supreme* Conceived by Anthony Veneziale Created by Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Anthony Veneziale Directed by Thomas Kail

Before Hamilton, before In the Heights, there was Freestyle Love Supreme.

Now — direct from Broadway — the original hip-hop musical phenomenon from Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Anthony Veneziale arrives in Seattle.

The recipient of a special 2020 Tony Award® and subject of the recently released Hulu documentary *We are Freestyle Love Supreme*, every performance of this Grammy-nominated show brings the unexpected, as the crew takes the crowd on a freestyle, hip-hop, improvisational comedy ride. The performers take suggestions from the audience and spin them into instantaneous riffs and full-length musical numbers. See it for the first time each time — as no two shows are ever the same.

WHEN:

February 16 - March 13, 2022

Performance times: Tuesday–Sunday Select Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday matinees at 2:00 p.m. and evening performances at 7:30 p.m. (no matinees during previews) Press Invite Night: Wednesday, February 16 at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Seattle Rep's Bagley Wright Theater, located at Seattle Center at the corner of Second Ave. and Mercer St., Seattle, Washington

TICKETS: Start at \$17 – ON SALE NOW

Discounted tickets for groups of 10+ may be purchased by calling 206.443.2224. For ticket reservations, call the Seattle Rep Patron Services Office at 206.443.2222 or toll-free at 877.900.9285, or go online at *seattlerep.org*

Seattle Rep offers Pay What You Choose tickets available for all of our performances. Pay What You Choose seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis with a minimum donation of \$5 per person over the phone, and a minimum of \$1 in person. Tickets are also available with our digital partner TodayTix 24 hours in advance or you may pre-order your tickets by phone at 206-443-2222. In person purchases will be available starting February 16, 2022.

There is a limit of 4 Pay What You Choose tickets per person . (Full price tickets may be reserved in advance in any quantity.)

PHOTOS:

Production images will become available in the coming weeks. For available pre-production images or artwork, please visit our online <u>Press Room here >></u>

SOCIAL:

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About Seattle Rep

Seattle Rep puts theater at the heart of public life. Founded in 1963 and winner of the 1990 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, Seattle Rep is currently led by Artistic Director Braden Abraham and Managing Director Jeffrey Herrmann. Over a season and throughout the year, Seattle Rep collaborates with extraordinary artists to create productions and programs that reflect and elevate the diverse cultures, perspectives, and life experiences of the Pacific Northwest. Seattle Rep's nationally recognized programs include the New Play Program, Seattle Rep's Public Works , Youth Engagement programs, Pay What You Choose ticketing options, and numerous audience enrichment and engagement opportunities including post-play panels, discussions, and community events and presentations.

SEATTLE

The 2021/22 Season Sponsor is ArtsFund.

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