PART THIS AMERICAN LIFE, PART STAND-UP COMEDY, WORDPLAY IS A MODERN TWIST ON THE ANCIENT ART OF STORYTELLING.

FRIDAY • AUGUST 14TH 2015 • 8PM

PITTSBURGH—Bricolage Production Company and Alan Olifson bring WordPlay back to the stage after its sold-out 2015-season premiere.

Throughout history, the art of oral storytelling has been an important part of the human experience, allowing communities to share beliefs, traditions, and history in a narrative form. A contemporary take on this timeless practice, WordPlay is a stimulating communal experience that blends personal true stories with a live music mash-up. With brazen honesty and creativity, actors, comedy writers, and everyday people read their own funny and often poignant stories while a DJ spins a real-time soundtrack. Using anything from Bruno Mars to Bach, the DJ and producer work with each performer to develop the perfect music mix, creating a rich storytelling experience unlike anything out there today. The result is something distinct, collaborative, lively, and most importantly...totally real.

WordPlay will be held at Bricolage Production Company on Friday, August 14th. The event begins with free drinks at a “Half-Hour Happy-Hour” at 7:30pm. WordPlay will include a spectacular array of local Pittsburgh storytellers including: Alan Olifson, Siovhan Christensen, Parag S. Gohel, Adam Tobias, and Bricolage’s own: Tami Dixon. This performance will also feature ASL interpretation by Heather Gray. Tickets to the show are $20 and can be purchased at www.bricolagepgh.org/events/wordplay. Suggested age is 18 and up.
Creator and producer Alan Olifson, host of the Pittsburgh’s monthly Moth StorySLAM series, transplanted WordPlay to the Steel City from Los Angeles where it ran successfully for five years. "Ever since seeing a rough cut of a movie without the score I've been amazed at the power of music to move a story", says Olifson. “So when I started my own storytelling show, adding a musical element seemed like a natural progression for the form.”

Now Pittsburghers can share their stories n’at in this unique and dynamic platform.

**Interested in sharing your story on stage?** WordPlay will be back November 20th. Story submissions must be true, engaging, and around 1,500 to 2,000 words. Email your submission to submissions@wordplayshow.com.

**Accessibility:** WordPlay will feature ASL interpretation and large print programs will also be available. Bricolage's space at 937 Liberty Avenue is designed for wheelchair access, featuring accessible restrooms and wheelchair seating. Companion seating is also available with advance notice. Bricolage is committed to providing an environment that is inclusive and welcoming to all patrons, endeavoring to have transparency with programs that may present specific challenges for participation. They encourage patrons to identify any specific accommodations that would make their experience more enjoyable such as Braille programs, audio description, or any other requests in the comments section when purchasing tickets or by calling their offices at 412.471.0999.

**Bricolage Mission Statement:** Bricolage’s mission is to immerse artists and audiences in adventurous theatrical experiences that foster connections and alter perceptions.

**Bricolage Artistic Vision:** Bricolage envisions theater not as a passive experience, but as a vehicle for heightened involvement for artist and audience alike. Their approach encourages artists to take the creative risks necessary to create full-blooded, high-quality theatrical experiences that challenge audiences to engage in new ways, react, and express openly their opinions about their work – to have a stake in the creative discussion. The word Bricolage means, “making artful use of what is at hand.” What excites this company is the connection and interaction between seemingly disparate elements, and the potential for these components to resonate as one cohesive event. Bricolage uses the distinctive resources of the Pittsburgh region to create theatrical experiences that stimulate a heightened sense of involvement for the audience. “What’s at hand” is the city’s changing landscape, its plentiful human and material resources, and the salient political, cultural and ethical issues encountered and reacted to each day. By combining different artistic mediums, nourishing local talent, producing provocative work, and facilitating audience engagement, Bricolage seeks to revitalize live performance for a new era.

####