PRESS MATERIALS **CANCELED - Dr. Jordan Peterson: Beyond Order Twelve More Rules For Life Tour** State Theatre, 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis Presented by Live Nation February 7 - 8 at 7:30 pm



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE





MINNEAPOLIS (February 2, 2023) – Hennepin Theatre Trust announced today that Dr. Jordan Peterson's scheduled Minneapolis stop of his **"Beyond Order Twelve More Rules for Life Tour"** on Tuesday February 7th and Wednesday February 8th, 2023 at the historic State Theatre (at 805 Hennepin Avenue) has been canceled.

Dr. Peterson and his team were unable to provide assurance that his shows will be safe for the public, nor assurance that the content of the show is in accordance with the stated values and public commitments made by Hennepin Theatre Trust.

This difficult decision was reached as part of The Trust's ongoing internal review. In the wake of the tragic death of Mr. George Perry Floyd by Minneapolis Police, Hennepin Theatre Trust embarked upon an evaluation of its programming, structures, and activities. This process produced a series of commitments to artists, partners, employees, audiences, the thousands of students served by Hennepin Theatre Trust programming, and the people of Minnesota. <u>These commitments were most recently updated in December 2022</u>.

"The health and well-being of our audiences, casts, crew and staff remains a top priority," said Mark Nerenhausen, president and CEO of Hennepin Theatre Trust. "Since its founding, Hennepin Theatre Trust has been committed to the economic and cultural vitality of the District, the city and the state of Minnesota. The Trust has actively advanced the vision of the Hennepin Theatre District with world-class entertainment," and Peterson just does not fit into that vision.

While some may be concerned about the Dr. Peterson's First Amendment rights, Hennepin Theatre Trust wants to assure the public that no constitutional rights have been infringed upon by this cancellation. Speech meant to incite violence is not protected under the First Amendment.

Dr. Jordan Peterson is a Canadian clinical psychologist, cultural critic and professor of psychology at the University of Toronto. He is best known for advocating for compulsory monogamy, denying there is any place in society for individuals with disabilities, calling for the ordering of society based upon serotonin levels, spreading unfounded claims of a "transgender epidemic", and comparing gender affirming care to Nazi experimentation. His supporters are enthusiastic, often threatening his critics with violence and harassment with tacit encouragement from Dr. Peterson.

In the coming weeks, Hennepin Theatre Trust will be releasing a full report evaluating its booking process and providing more information about its internal structures. As an institution supported by millions of dollars in public money per year, Hennepin Theatre Trust is proud to decisively lead the way in a transformative local culture shift towards accountability and transparency. The Trust hopes that more publicly funded institutions will follow suit.

"Our extraordinary performing arts community promotes the identity and culture of Minneapolis each and every day," said Jacob Frey, Mayor of Minneapolis. "I am so proud of this achievement by Hennepin Theatre Trust." Ticketholders and purchasers of VIP packages for the event will be updated through their point of purchase and on the Trust's website.

The Trust reminds patrons to only purchase tickets through the Trust's website for tickets to shows at the Orpheum, State or Pantages Theatres. Those who have purchased through a secondary ticketing site should contact their point of purchase for more information regarding how their order is affected. The Trust is not responsible for the procedures or refund policies of secondary ticket providers or other sources.

Hennepin Theatre Trust drives cultural and economic vitality in Minnesota through leadership of the dynamic Hennepin Theatre District in downtown Minneapolis and educational programming that reaches every area of the state. Its historic theatres – Orpheum, State and Pantages – and event center at 900 Hennepin Avenue light up Hennepin Avenue with top-tier entertainment, including the best of Broadway and a wide variety of arts programming. Hennepin Theatre Trust is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Learn more at HennepinTheatreTrust.org.

Heart of Hennepin - celebrating 100 years of the Hennepin Theatre District

To honor the centennial, Hennepin Theatre Trust is kicking off a yearlong celebration for the Orpheum, State and Pantages theatres, along with The Hennepin event center and 824 Hennepin, home to the Brave New Workshop comedy theatre. This year-long centennial celebration honors the history of the Hennepin Theatre District and looks ahead to what the future holds for the arts, the Trust and downtown neighbors. <u>HennepinTheatreTrust.org/centennial</u>

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