

ALGONQUIN BOOKS WILL PUBLISH COMMENCEMENT SPEECH BY JOHN WATERS

September 30, 2015 (New York, NY) – Algonquin Books, a Division of Workman Publishing, is excited to announce that it has acquired North American rights to publish *Make Trouble* by John Waters, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Role Models* and *Carsick*, and director of such cult films as *Hairspray*, *Pink Flamingos*, and *Cecil B. Demented*. The deal was negotiated by Amy Gash, Senior Editor, and Waters' agent, Bill Clegg of The Clegg Agency.

Make Trouble is the gleefully subversive commencement address that Waters delivered to the Rhode Island School of Design's graduating class of 2015. In it, he encourages young people to embrace chaos, to avoid assholes, to make their political enemies laugh, and above all, to challenge the status quo. The speech went viral and why not: What better advice for aspiring artists and anyone seeking happiness and success on their own terms? The new book will be illustrated with line drawings.

“Since I got in serious trouble in every school I ever went to, the chance to give college graduates

career advice seems the perfect ironic end (or beginning?) to my damaged academic career. I hope this little book will become the perfect graduation gift from parents to their troubled children who have been driving them crazy for years,” says Waters.

Gash adds, “The minute I heard this graduation speech, after I finished laughing, I thought about how refreshing it is not to hear the usual platitudes. John Waters is an icon, a national treasure, and Algonquin is thrilled to be publishing this gem of a book filled with his wise and unconventional advice.”

Publication is scheduled for Spring 2017.

Algonquin publishes a distinguished list of fiction and nonfiction. Its authors include Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Julia Alvarez, Theresa Brown, Esme Raji Codell, Lin Enger, Jonathan Evison, Matti Friedman, Robert Goolrick, Sara Gruen, Tim Johnston, Hillary Jordan, Caroline Leavitt, Rebecca Lee, Richard Louv, Jill McCorkle, Robert Morgan, Ariel Sabar, B.A. Shapiro, Lee Smith, Amy Stewart, Larry Watson, and Gabrielle Zevin.