

Sofa So Good

Small Matters Productions—Warehouse

This is a show not to be missed at this year's Fringe. Two clowns, Rocket and Sheshells, are moving in together and what ensues will charm the pants off you. This duo is talented and funny, and their clowning skills are very professional. Their gags and antics are dynamic and engaging to watch as they adjust to their new living arrangement.

There are lots of laughs at the conflicts that ensue between them in their fights for the remote and for sofa space. Sheshells reads a Clown version of Cosmo Magazine and uses the whole sofa. But Rocket has other ideas.

There is hilarious jealousy over a lamp as Sheshells feels Rocket is cheating on her with it.

This is an unpredictable romp that is full of surprises. The Sofa supplies many interesting items such as a Universal Remote with which Sheshells turns Rocket on and off. In one scene they find an unmentionable object of a sexual nature, and try to figure out what it is used for. Watch out for full audience participation.

The Sofa keeps egging the couple on to challenge their relationship in a battle of wits. But they have a whole lot of fun discovering things together in laugh out loud funny scenes. The Sofa reveals its darker side, as well, which makes things even more interesting.

This will please a general audience. It's a good date play but anyone can see it and enjoy the beautiful relationship Rocket and Sheshells have. They are funny and imaginative and their performances are stellar and memorable. Awesome show.

Yvette Jones

Wow! I went into this show not knowing what to expect, and I was blown away. Rocket and Sheshells kept me spellbound like a kid seeing his first ever clown show (which it was for me). Their physicality and facial expressions were priceless and told a wonderful story. The show wasn't much

for dialogue, but it didn't really need it. I loved their interaction with their set, the audience, their props, and each other. It's hard to say anything about the content of the show without giving away some of the best bits, but I'll say this, the clown couple's "discovery and exploration" of life together was a joy to watch. I know that this style of show may not be for everyone, but this was my best fringe show experience this year, and ranks as one of my best ever (yeah...I liked it that much).

Mitch Krohn

Lucky 9

Big Sandwich Productions—U of M

Oh, T.J., were you really crying or did you have a cold? You can tell me a story anytime. Fringe god T.J. Dawe does it again. Based on snippets from his life, he speaks of coming to a new relationship with his family and himself, not "perfect", but much better and closer. Funny and moving, sometimes in the same sentence, he does what he does best. He relates a touching true story, polished by his astute and quirky observations of his life and the people in it. Bravo.

Lisa Campbell

This is Cancer

PKF Productions—PTE Mainstage

Wow! This is one Fringe play that you will remember for ages. I hope the subject matter (like that in another Fringe play, *Interruptions*) is not scaring away patrons. The venue was not quite full. Bruce Horak personifies Cancer, ably assisted by silent and sexy Emma Brager. He artfully manages to make cancer both funny and sinister. His creepily grotesque costume is appropriate for this disease. This show is screamingly funny at times. He explains himself by saying he just can't help falling in love with humans. He relates his genealogy. He is descended from the gods. His rubbery body uses every inch of the huge PTE stage—getting up into the audience and into our heads and hearts. He argues very convincingly with us to just see things

from his side. We are too sweet to leave alone. The ending was achingly touching. What a perfect, hopeful, and appropriate finish. I honestly feel sorry for anyone who misses this chance to see such a stellar show. Note: Get his handout! There is much to read, and it adds to what you take away from this creative piece of theatre.

Lisa Campbell

First let me say that Bruce Horak is a phenomenal performer with great physicality and pitch-perfect delivery. On top of that, on Monday night he handled some major audience distractions with poise. The subject material is of course a little too touchy for some people to feel comfortable with, but I found the script to be intelligent, compassionate, and—in some places—uplifting. And without wanting to sound sexist, Lucinda added a lot to the show without uttering a word. You'd have to go back to Harpo Marx to find someone who said so much without speaking.

At first I wasn't sure I wanted to see this show, but word of mouth persuaded me and I am very glad that I took a chance on it.

Kevin Longfield

Kyle's Pile

Edge of Make Believe—Sch. of Contemp. Dancers

Nicely written kids show by Jason T. Broadfoot, who joins his partner Maryth Gilroy in presenting Kyle's Pile. The lines between performer and audience are dissolved right from the start as Jason is up in the crowd beginning to speak from there. This show won't hold the attention of the VERY, very young, but everyone else will enjoy the story. The duo have an easy and savvy style, and are a joy to watch. If you are really lucky, your beloved short folk

will now look at cleaning up their mess a wee bit differently. Lotsa laughs and you get a tootsie roll, too.

Lisa Campbell

