Shel Shocked

project 13—Red River College

Bits of Shel Shocked were good, but unfortunately the majority of it didn't impress me.

The show is composed of eight seemingly unconnected sketches—some of which start out promising, but all of which end up dragging on far too long.

As far as I can see, the writing was an outlet for a "beloved children's author" to have characters say "shit" and other obscenities over and over again without worrying about creating real stories. The pieces all tried to be funny but mostly failed and in the end I felt a little shell shocked, for having wasted my time and money on this show.

Colin Stobbe

Marco Polo Sings a Solo

Agua Luna Productions—PTE Studio

Pantaloons and tights, history and fantasy, dreams aborted and reality distorted. What's it all about?

You may never know, but, then again you might. But if you don't go to PTE's Studio and see this terrific production, you'll have missed the chance to "explore" and find out.

Maureen Taggert



Columpa C. Bobb in DINKY, a cancer story with many twists



Weapons of Mass Deception

On the Edge—MTC Backstage

I laughed, I cried, I went through all the emotions, and all to music no less! I had a blast!!!!

Weapons of Mass Deception questions what we are told by government, religion, and our personal interactions, and challenges us to address how we receive and accept (or don't) these messages. It also questions how we integrate those beliefs, and the standard system of manipulating the truth in our personal lives.

The 80-minute production is well-paced, moving smoothly from scene to scene and song to song, all performed by a talented cast that evoke strong emotions from humour to sadness.

This production is a definite "must see." You may feel your perceptions of religion, politics, and social interactions have been challenged (or perhaps offended), but I guarantee you will leave thinking about the messages presented.

In talking with other Fringe-goers, I am amazed at the amount of "manipulated truth" already circulating about this production. Rumours that this production is being "workshopped for Broadway", that it changes nightly, (strange, since today—Friday—was the production's first performance), are interesting, but untrue. I guess Weapons of Mass Deception is, in fact, a topic of Mass Deception. To quote Alannis Morrisette, "isn't that ironic?"

R. L. Webb

The Worst Fringe Play in the World

Needle-in-a-Haystack productions—Warehouse

Anyone who has taken part in a Fringe production will have rueful moments of recognition watching this play. Those who have had the misfortune of sitting through their personal worst Fringe play will also recognize some moments.

This is a behind-the-scenes look at how plays go bad. If you've ever seen Daniel MacIvor's This is a Play, you will recognize some elements, such as hearing the actor's inner thoughts. It has some hilarious moments, and the performances are all great.

Some scenes last a little too long for my taste, such as McMillan's Peeping Tom routine. To the actors' credit, though, by the end I found myself sympathizing with the characters who find themselves out of their depth onstage.

This play is a good reminder that the people who go onstage and stink the joint out do not do it on purpose. It's also a cautionary tale for people considering theatre to think hard before they commit themselves to standing naked on stage.

Kevin Longfield

Got Rice?
Two Browns Don't Make a White
Venue 9

King's Head Pub Club
Private Club
Everyone Welcome!!
Membership applications at the door

Home to this year's Fabulous Jenny Awards

HAPPY HOUR
2 pm to 7 pm
Monday through Thursday

Kitchen open to 1:00 am every night

ENTERTAINMENT NIGHTLY

July 19-22 (Mon-Thu)
"**Jam with Joe**" (open jam) 10:30 pm

July 23-24 (Fri-Sat)
"**The Adventurers**" 10:30 pm

July 25 (Sun)
The FABULOUS "**Jenny Awards**" 11-ish
Followed by "**All the King's Men**"

120 King Street, Winnipeg MB R3B 1H9
phone 956-KING or 957-7710