# NE BUZZ Reviews

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### **Body Language**

#### Hot Thespian Action–Gas Station

I saw Hot Thespian Action's offering for this year's Fringe Festival Wednesday, July 25th at 7pm. Apparently the lineup to get tickets started Wednesday, July 25th at 4pm. I get the impression that all of their shows are like this, and now I see why.

This was my first Hot Thespian Action experience; and boy, have I been missing out. These five performers put on a show the likes of which you will not see anywhere else. This is comedy at its finest. Witty dialogue, original and extremely well performed physical comedy, and musical comedy done in sketch form.

Some skits are topical and lampoon popular culture; some are timeless, wordless physical comedy; all are hilarious. If talent equalled popularity, this troupe would be one of the biggest there is.

#### Eric Rae

#### Antigone

This Reality Theatre—Rudolf Rocker

Antigone is the classical Greek story of love, power, and family.

It's done in a perfect theatrical style, set in a '50s scene. The timing is sharp, the voices resonant. And you can feel the energy and tension like a tightrope-walking show. Standing ovation. *Vello Ruus* 

Catch as Catch Can

#### **Pretending Things are a Cock**

#### JonBennettComedy.com-Planetarium

Well...what can I say? The Eiffel Tower, a dog, a pink floral-print thong sandal: all cocks.

This cutesy tale of a man who travelled (read: straddled) the world explores the relationship of Jon Bennett and the people in his life that influenced his phallic world. If you've ever had your well-hung brother stick his dick in your ear, see this performance. FUNNY! *M. Aster Choi* 

### IVI. ASIEI

### **Teaching Hamlet**

#### Doctor Kier Co.-PTE Mainstage

Kier Cutler is back, and he brought company—Brett Watson, who brilliantly plays a rising Shakespearean actor.

Cutler is, of course, the scholar, an expert in the history of the Bard. The two of them are in rehearsal for a promotional video. During their rehearsal there is much heated debate about the difference between the Oxfordian and the Stratfordian views about Shakespeare.

Kier is wonderful as the demented spokesman for Shakespeare, replete with a plethora of historical truths about him, but being out-acted by the cunning yet desperate thespian.

In the end, the Bard is fulfilled, and for once at the Fringe, we see Kier's character outwitted by another actor...refreshing and darn funny!!

Kevin Campbell

#### Ne Me Quitte Pas Piaf and Brel:...

#### Folie du Théâtre Paris...-Crocus Bldg. (Bannatyne)

The first thing I want to say is this: before going into this show, I was not familiar with Jacques Brel or Edith Piaf. I had heard their names, but wouldn't recognize their music. That being said, I thought Ne Me Quitte Pas... was a very good show

Essentially, the show consists of two performers talking about their lives in relation to the lives of the eponymous singers. Melanie Gall and Bremner Duthie are both very charming and engaging during the storytelling bits, and both are amazing singers.

My only complaint is that it was a little long for non-Piaf/Brel fans (it did run roughly 10 minutes



longer than was scheduled), but I imagine an aficionado would enjoy a much longer version, so I will chalk my length issue down to personal taste and not any kind of failing on the part of the performers.

Reviews

If you're a fan of Piaf or Brel, or want to learn more about them, definitely check out this show. If you are not, but like love songs, you also should check out this show.

Eric Rae







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