

<http://www.fringe festival.org/showdetail.cfm?showid=624&fullreviews=true#reviews>



"Best of the fringe!" by re gurgitate:

This ranks with Cody Rivers show as my two favorites so far. I'm so happy to see a well written show, with quality acting to support it. Congrats to all involved!



"Rollicking Fun" by Kyle Brenton:

As a follower of the career of Steve Moulds, I am perhaps slightly biased, but Killer Smile was one of the funniest shows I've seen in recent memory. Firmly grounded in character, and yet reaching heights of absurdity that are even more hilarious for their believability, Steve and Brian Balcom both have outdone themselves. See it!



"This is what Fringe should be" by The Letter M:

Well acted, smartly written, funny without going for the easy laughs or crap stereotypes.



"Focused new work!" by Gary Dietze:

I think this show fired on all cylinders. Strong acting with great characters. Solid direction, and a wonderful script. I would probably agree with the review that I wouldn't want to spend actual time with these people, but is that the point of the play? I'm sure we all have friends that we don't really know why we're friends with them. "Because I've always been friends with them" is a common answer. The play might benefit with a little more softness, but it might not. It is incredibly strong without, and the comic timing of these actors is spot on. I had a strong image in my head of the Birthday girl because of what the actors conveyed. Thank you. This is what the Fringe is all about. New works with great characters, and it even has a beginning, middle, and end.



"A MUST SEE!!!!" by J. P.:

A surprisingly funny oddball comedy. Killer Smile is by far the best thing I've seen this year at the Fringe. The writing is incredibly smart. The whole piece is very well directed. The acting is superb. You won't want to miss Matt Rein's performance as Aaron. It's brilliant! The cast works great as an ensemble and there is not a weak link in the group. It's plays like this one that make the Fringe a fun and exciting event each year. Go and I bet you won't be disappointed!



"Glad I changed my plans" by scot moore:

I really had no idea what I was getting into with this show. When it started, I was scrambling for my program so I could notate the names of the first two actors I saw, because they were hilarious! I couldn't find my program without making a big scene, so I just cursed myself for a minute and let it go. I shortly realized, however, that it didn't matter. The ENTIRE cast is fabulous, and utilizes some of the best timing and facial expressions I've seen at the Fringe this year. This show also boasts the best ensemble cast I've seen this year. They're tight, well rehearsed, and very in-tune with the script and each other. Essentially, the story revolves around a bunch of people who show up at a birthday party for someone they each know individually, though they've never met each other. Don't try to imagine where the show goes from there, just go see it. I have one lousy complaint about the show, which is the

overuse of the "F" word. This is coming from a guy who uses it in everyday discussion more than almost anyone else I know. Even I felt it was used too much. That aside, this is the funniest &*%^\$#@! thing I've seen at the Fringe this year. If you can get tickets SEE THIS SHOW!



"Comic Excellence" by Justin Bacon:

Killer Smile is fun, clever, and brilliantly written. The script possesses a sophistication and narrative complexity which is rare to see at a Fringe show: Steve Moulds unpeels his characters like onions, effortlessly exploring the dynamics of his scenario to produce countless moments of comedy, drama, and heartfelt truth. Time and time again, a revelation will serve to completely refocus everything that has come before it, keeping the play perpetually fresh. Combined with the success of How to Cheat at last year's Fringe, I think Moulds has established himself as a premiere talent. Make no mistake, however: Some of the characters of Killer Smile are not nice people. And even those who are sympathetic have their foibles and quirks. This is not a birthday party that I would want to be attending. But it's definitely a birthday party worth WATCHING. Perhaps the best testimony to the overall excellence of this show is that my girlfriend and I were still quoting our favorite lines from the show hours later. It is, without a doubt, the best show that we have seen at the Fringe this year. It may prove to be the crown jewel of this year's festival.



"9 of us loved this show!" by bonnie herr:

Fast moving, clever, well written and well acted play. 7 first time Fringe Fest attendees were impressed and will go again. All would recommend this show. Writer, director and actors know what they're doing!!



"Go see it!" by Jeannine Coulombe:

If you have friends, go see this show! If you don't, go see it anyway! Well written with a great acting ensemble. Melissa Anne Murphy is a hoot! Jeany Park brings it home (like always.) and I discovered the comic timing genius of Matt Rein. The actors also worked well together. I love that! The script's premise is used wonderfully to explore character, all dimensions too (dark and comedic.) I left feeling amply satisfied, although I don't know if I'll be eating birthday cake any time soon.



"Giggles...and laughter" by Scotty D:

I found myself giggling or laughing out loud throughout most of this show. hmmm...I hope I didn't disturb anyone else - oh wait, they were laughing too. go see it!



"With Friends Like These..." by Sarah Holmberg:

A really wonderful show. The script is amazing, lots of layers of revelation that felt very true to life. Having had friends like Sam, the confessions of the characters about their feelings towards her resonated and the dark edge the twist takes was gratifying in it's being so extreme. Well timed, well paced and really great reactions, along with great use of the space make this a joy to watch. Am planning on going again - everyone should see it.



"A pleasant surprise" by Sarah:

I saw the postcard for this show and wanted to see it after reading the hysterically dramatic tagline. I didn't know if it would be very entertaining or well written but I ended up thinking it was both. I thought that all the performances were great particularly the man playing Aaron.



"Cardboard Smiles for All Racial Backgrounds!!" by Anton Jones:

Six very unhappy people all find themselves stuck together at a surprise birthday party where the guest of honor has yet to arrive. Could be depressing... but in this case, depressingly funny. Matt Rein's skillful performance as Aaron, a socially awkward and pathetic stand-up comedian, creates the same energy that you may find in early Matthew Broderick or Ben Stiller in "Meet the Parents". I found myself feeling sorry for his awkwardness, annoyed at his inability to keep his foot in his mouth, and at the same time entertained by his substandard social timing. Similarly, Melissa Anne Murphy played the anal party planner skillfully, while Kenneth Pierce kept the energy moving in the first 15 minutes of the play with his short rantings as he journeyed between the front yard (offstage) and the kitchen (also offstage). In general, the cast pulled off some strong performances and paired with the direction and writing it led to a production that skillfully maneuvered it's way around a world that is full of awkward small talk, party games run like a dictatorship, and cardboard cut out smiles for all races. My only complaint is that the giant vent by the booth was very loud causing me to have trouble hearing some of the words.



"Well crafted, well acted" by John Heimbuch:

This show is tremendously entertaining. It skilfully manipulates our growing understanding of the characters and their situation, through witty exchanges of personal confessions. The dialogue is wonderfully honest, awkward, and funny - good work from Steve Moulds on writing some amazing exchanges and clever running jokes, and it's made even more wonderful by the talented cast and capable direction. This party goes from bad to worse, and it just keeps getting better.



"An hour later, I'm still smiling." by Amy Rummenie:

Hot damn this was funny. The dialogue was witty and well timed, persevering in the face of the raucous laughter of the audience (Matt Rein and Jeany Park in particular pull of some hilarious subtlety here). A great ensemble cast, each actor pulls of a character as lovably flawed as the next. Well, perhaps not: some of those characters are fascinatingly flawed individuals. The story is basic- but the real fun is in watching the reactions and realizations.



"good stuff" by BN DR:

The directing was clearly terrific here. The script was interesting and plot-twisty, even if it got off to a slow start. The actors were, for the most part, very believable and polished in their roles. Overall, time well spent. One question, though - where was Sam? She was in the program but never made an appearance.



"Bravo!" by David Woolley:

Snappy script and great performances. Every character in this play reeks of a different neurosis. That's what makes it so fun to watch. I'd never heard of The New Theatre Group before, but I'll be on the lookout for their shows from now on.



"Comedy Isn't Pretty" by Joseph Bunce:

Black comedy seems to be very difficult for Americans to carry off... it either tends to be so black it isn't funny, or goes for light and fluffy laughs that fail to qualify as "black". "Killer Smile" deftly steers the middle course and makes you laugh at some mighty despicable characters and behavior. And it's all the funnier for being so believable.



"Surprise!!!" by Regina Williams:

I think we all thought what we were expecting was what we were going to get. For an hour Killer Smile had me being a detective. Trying to figure out who-done-it or what had been done if anything at all. Steve Moulds is a fine writer. The actors did a great job telling the story. I laughed and I sure needed that.



"Party Politics" by Reid Gagle:

A group of strangers assemble for a surprise birthday party for the woman who is the object of everyone's affection. Revelations ensue. This is a regular play, with distinct characters and a funny situation. There were a couple moments where lines fell a bit flat, but they were few. Consider crashing this party.



"Smile Masks for Everyone" by dixie treichel:

A surprise birthday party reveals co-dependency & unacknowledged despair. Do we buy love? Do all Asians look the same? Ask the controlling closeted host. As we wait for the birthday "girl", an invisible lesbian, we understand she is the real controller that everyone loves to hate. A script with interesting ideas that needs more work-transform the shallow hate issues into unconscious darkness we love to hide.



"An entertaining surprise" by Florence Brammer:

I went to this show only because my daughters wanted to, but I ended up laughing a lot and being very entertained. The kind of quirky script that probably wouldn't see the light of day without the Fringe. While I wouldn't plan an evening's Fringe itinerary around it, it's well worth a slot if you have an opening and are in the mood for a comedy.