

Amnesia Wars



NYTHEATRE.COM REVIEW
by Martin Denton
September 3, 2000

OFF-BROADWAY SHOW LISTING

THEATRE:

The Parkside Inn, 317 East
Houston Street

OPENED:

September 3, 2000

CLOSES:

November 19, 2000

[EXTENDED-OPEN RUN!](#)

PERFORMANCE**TIMES:**

Sun at 8pm

RUNNING TIME:

1 hour, 30 minutes

TICKETS:

\$5 suggested donation + 2
drink minimum

ORDERING INFO:

917-752-0657

Part two starts with three locations called out by the audience (a manhole, an igloo, and purgatory were the ones provided at the show I attended). The actors then improvise something called "The Lola," which turns out to be a fugue of sorts, of linked stories set in each of these strange places, played out a total of three times, as the invented characters try to improve or enhance their destinies.

If it all sounds precious or abstract, then I haven't done the show justice (if it sounds odd and unlike any other theatre you've ever seen, then I have). The thing is, there's structure to what Amnesia Wars does, but it's hardly at all like the more rigid "theatresports" routines that dominate the improv of shows like *Chicago City Limits* or *Whose Line Is It, Anyway?* This is looser, more spontaneous, and way more dangerous: as challenging for the audience as it is for the performers. Expect death-defying turns and giddily weird developments: a married couple in an igloo obsessing over a video of *The Music Man*, perhaps, or a rock icon named Jack scratching his autograph onto a dead fan's arm. You have to be there, or more accurately, you have to go there: Amnesia Wars, in all its superbly witty splendor, has to be experienced to be fully appreciated.

CAST: Jason Evans, Jennifer Nails, Rob Reese, Jared Robinson

DIRECTOR: Rob Reese

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