



Trans Scripts – Pleasance Courtyard, Edinburgh

22/08/2015

Writer: Paul Lucas

Director: Linda Ames Key

Reviewer: David Doyle

★★★★★

2015 has been an important for the transgender community with greater visibility allowing for the issue faced by the community to be more widely acknowledged by the wider public. *Trans Scripts* therefore feels extremely timely in its exploration of those issues. Drawn from interviews with a diverse group of people from the transgender community the play deals with many of the issues faced by them in a way that both deepens understanding and entertains.

Director Linda Ames Key is no stranger to this type of work having won a Fringe First for her production of *The Laramie Project*, a verbatim piece that deals with the issue of the murder of a gay college student and her direction of this is wonderfully pared down to allow the stories being told to shine through. The stories are the most important part of this production. They are stories that demand to be heard. The stories run a gamut from the personal to more political issues, dealing with family reactions as well as the anger of starting a rights movement only to be cut out of it by white gay men.

It's a powerful piece throughout and all the more so for its diversity. The production doesn't force a voice on the transgender community instead allowing for a plurality of voices to be heard. There's no unity of experience, no agreement even on what it means to be transgender. Instead the audience are presented with personal stories, stories they can connect with. This is undoubtedly a piece that will make audience think and is an important exploration of an issue that for too long has been silenced by society

Runs until 31 August 2015