

Stage Raw

Theater to See in L.A. This Week, Including a Stunning Play With a Very Long Title

By Steven Leigh Morris Thu., Jun. 20 2013 at 11:17 AM

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HOLLYWOOD FRINGE REVIEWS, scheduled for publication June 20, 2013:

GO A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE The first fully staged L.A. production of this musical -- about a conflicted, theater-obsessed bus conductor in 1964 Dublin directing a community-theater performance of Oscar Wilde's *Salome* -- is hilarious and devastating in equal measure. Director Janet Miller is confident in guiding a uniformly beguiling ensemble, led by the warmth of Dominic McChesney as Alfie. David Gilchrist gives great shading to antagonist Mr. Carney, while Shirley Anne Hatton as Alfie's sister, Lily, is beyond stunning in a non-showy role. "The Cuddles Mary Gave," a second-act song beautifully performed by Matt Stevens, is a standout in a wonderful score by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty (*Ragtime*) -- it's rich with character details and genuine longing. Katherine Barrett's lighting design is the only true weak point, with spotlights always slightly off their target. The overall impact is unhampered by this glitch, however, as this production is truly enthralling. Lillian Theatre at the Elephant Stages, 1076 Lillian Way, Hlywd.; Fri.-Sat. 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.; Sat, June 29, 2 p.m.; through June 30. hollywoodfringe.org/projects/1093. (Kevin O'Keeffe)