

Not Born Yesterday!

Our Year!

The Voice & Viewpoint of Older Adults

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Morna Murphy Martell

Theatre - Currently Playing

The Snake Can
Review by
Morna Murphy
Martell

According to author Kathryn Graf, 'The Snake Can' refers to "the crazy snakes that boing out of a child's toy can... wild and surprised, free and eager, unhinged and terrified." It's a great metaphor for this brilliant play where middle aged women and men, no longer young, confident and free of baggage, struggle to form authentic relationships in our modern age. Yes, there is matchmaker.luv which supposedly makes it easier, but does it really?

Everyone in the cast is outstanding. Sharon Sharth is a twice-divorced beauty whose desperation strikes fear in shy men; Diane Cary is an artist fleeing from a suffocating marriage; Jane Kaczmarek, a widow for 7 years, is testing the waters of online dating with abandon; James

Lancaster portrays a sexually ambiguous man searching for clarity; Gregory Harrison is a film star who, upon losing the love of his life, cannot bear loneliness; and Joel Polis, in two very different roles (he had me fooled), is first an uptight accountant afraid of sex, and then, beret in place, a gay man who clearly has found our modern age suits him just fine.

Under Steven Robman's keen direction every character rings true and he effectively uses projections, designed by Hana S. Kim, to enhance the action. The set by Jeffery P. Eisenmann captures the reality of an IKEA world; first class lighting by Adam Blumenthal, sound by Cricket S. Myers, costumes by Miguel Montalvo, and props by Lorely Trinidad all enhance this world premiere production.

An Indie Chi Production, "The Snake Can" is playing through February 24 at The Odyssey Theatre, 2055 S. Sepulveda Boulevard, LA. For tickets: (310) 447-2055 ext. 2. or www.odysseytheatre.com.

The Snake Can



James Lancaster, Sharon Sharth, Diane Cary and Jane Kaczmarek

Photo by Ed Krieger