DC Theatre Reviews

DC Theatre News, Reviews, Interviews, Links and Podcasts

October 8, 2006

Get Your War On

October 08th 2006 Posted to Our Reviews GET YOUR WAR ON_Created by The Rude Mechs Performing at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company by Fiona Zublin

Americans are angry. Really, really angry. *Get Your War On*, both the comic strip and its theatrical adaptation, capture that anger with aplomb.

If you've never experienced the internet comic strip "Get Your War On", don't expect Peanuts. First of all, the art no longer matters; cartoonist David Rees uses clipart of office workers. His contribution is the dialogue, a profane and often profound indictment of the unfathomable incompetence of the government and of the fact that people are too nervous to comment on with the vehemence it deserves.

Texas-based theater group the Rude Mechs performs this piece with five actors and five slide projectors. There are occasional musical interludes that are sort of funny before they go on too long. There are bizarre metaphors—"Iraq has seen more corners than a 200-year-old hooker made out of Rubik's cubes"—and an astounding amount of profanity that, although it is pulled straight from the comic strip, is distracting in its profuseness.

So what's it about? It's about how badly the administration has botched everything they've ever tried to do, how angry Americans are about the direction the country is taking, and how brainwashed people can become by catchphrases and confidence in place of competence. And it is unbelievably funny for almost the entire 70-minute running time. Not just for die-hard Bush-haters either; my Republican seatmate laughed a lot too.

If it's not sold out and you can handle a few hundred repeats of the f-word, don't miss it.

Get Your War On plays at the Woolly Mammoth (641 D Street, NW) Oct 5 - 14 Wednesday thru Saturday evenings with two performances Saturday 10/14. Tickets: \$24-32. For reservations, call (202) 393-3939 or purchase tickets online:www.woollymammoth.net.