

AXS ENTERTAINMENT / ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT / PERFORMING ARTS

# Dispatches from The Fringe - Youth conquers all with Dublinese and Shandango

September 19, 2012

6:34 PM MST



My Fair Mot  
Eleonore Nicolas

## My Fair Mot, All Dressed Up And Nowhere To Shandango

Rating: ★★★★★

### **My Fair Mot** is bleedin' deadly

In the tradition of *School Around The Corner* and *Give Up Yer Aul Sins* comes Eleonore Nicolas' *My Fair Mot*, a hilarious crash course in Dublinese given by the youngest and possibly best comedy double act of the festival.

Entering the classroom you receive a copybook and a bottle of water as you take your seat. Every wall is decorated with sight cards featuring the proper, phonetic pronunciations of words like *Burd*, *Oringe* and *Hurlin*. Presently the principal, Ms Carol Donnelly, greets the class and introduces their teachers for the evening: 12 year old Sean Fitzpatrick and 11 year old, but only till next Monday, Alex Farrelly. What follows is an hour of unscripted hilarity as these excellent teachers advise their

students on the proper spellings and pronunciations of Dublinese, answering all questions and taking no nonsense in the process.

A brief interlude featured three teenage actors in drag playing fruit sellers on Moore Street. These fine ladies rewarded individual excellence with Strawbreeze and Appils, which they distributed to students who pronounced their words properly. Also working without a script, Darren Brennan, Ryan Mooney and Ross Hennessey were terrifically engaging, showing a depth of confidence that belied their young years. Always assured, the Moore Street ladies interacted with the audience and generated many laughs in the process.

But the scene stealers on the night were Farrelly and Fitzpatrick, who for the majority of the show ad-libbed effortlessly and hilariously to a delighted audience. Farrelly played the straight Bud Abbot to Fitzpatrick's energetic Lou Costello and together they showed astonishing poise that won the audience over. Both responded confidently to questions and dealt with unruly students with a natural charm and ease that many professionals would give their eye teeth to have even an ounce of. Their no nonsense style, writing X's on the blackboard if you refused to put your hand up before a question, was set against their insisting on generous applause whenever someone got something right. Leading the audience in a rousing rendition of Molly Malone confirmed that the sky is the limit for these two hugely talented performers, even if Fitzpatrick does support a brutal football team.

Audience participation is not mandatory, but is advised and makes the show that much more enjoyable. It also ensures you won't get detention, an X beside your name and that you receive your Certificate of Completion at the end of the class. As you leave this original, fresh and charming production, fluent in basic Dublinese, you can't help smiling. *My Fair Mot* is a joyful and heart-warming production that showcases some of the most engaging young performers to be found anywhere.

*My Fair Mot* runs at S.A.Y.S., 4 Whitefriars, Aungier Street until September 22nd. Show begins at 6.30 p.m. Tickets are €13.00

*Be advised: My Fair Mot is recorded each evening and the audience are asked to sign a release form upon entry.*

### **Sketch show meets review in *All Dressed Up And Nowhere To Shandango***

On a clothes line hang pages numbered from one to thirty. Each number represents a play. The audience call out a number and Filibuster Co. enact that play. Simple. Except the object of *All Dressed Up And Nowhere To Shandango* is to perform all thirty plays in 60 minutes.

Devised in accordance with the ideology underpinning Chicago's Neo-Futurists and reminiscent of The Oxford Student Reviews of the 80's, Filibuster Co. borrow heavily from their mentors in this brave and often hilarious production. Original in its execution if not its origin, *All Dressed Up And Nowhere To Shandango* has some excellent individual performances and many excellent sketches from Amanda Coakley, Declan Gillen, Aoife Leonard, Leah Minto, Keith Monaghan, Katherine Murphy and Joseph Ryan. Stand out moments included *Chess*, *Leah's First Kiss* and the delightful

*Walk Of Shame*. If not all plays and performances were successful, this young company is finding its feet and are not afraid of testing themselves, hitting the mark more often than they miss.



**Chris O'Rourke**  
Tulsa Theater Examiner

© 2006-2015 AXS Digital Group LLC d/b/a Examiner.com