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'A Little Hamlet' Shakespeare workshop at Hollywood Fringe

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Press photos of the cast of "A Little Hamlet" at the Hollywood Fringe. Dan Will McCann as William Shakespeare. Tracey Maron Anthony as Freida Threadneedle. Greg David Jones as Producer Peter Pennyworth. Aurora Culver as Rosemary Pennyworth

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Crescent Troupe brings to the Hollywood Fringe this year an innovative concept, "A Little Hamlet" where Shakespeare attempts to workshop his most well adapted work and convince critics of its worth. Written and Directed by Dan Will McCann who also plays William Shakespeare, the piece seems to be truly a work in progress, chaotic and farcical and critical of the acting profession.

The show begins with a Producer Peter Pennyworth played by Greg David Jones and Director Johan Catesby played by Joshua Pritchard informing the audience that they are waiting for actors. Eventually Tracey Maron Anthony enters as Freida Threadneedle a seamstress with an actor named Richard Noggin played by Justen Asher. It quickly becomes apparent that "Little Hamlet" boils the play down to just the highlights and centers on comical farce and jibbing about method acting.

The actor Richard Noggin must stay in character to be the character, and there are jokes made as to the usual misunderstanding of the craft of acting. It makes light of the craft and the depth actors go to in order to create and perfect a role. It also leaves the audience with a gross misunderstanding as to what acting really is as an art.

Experience to achieve a goal requires the correct experience and training. For the most part the actor Justen Asher does a fantastic job of showing the audience his character overacts. However during one of Shakespeare's most well known speeches, a moment of brilliance as to what Shakespeare and his words can merit even in the hands of a buffoon shines.

This piece reminds one of old vaudeville or a roadside carnival act. Aurora Culver makes an appearance as Rosemary Pennyworth the producers daughter and just as brief an appearance as an actress in the play within the play. (Apparently she plays Christina McCann on June 25). Harold Tilney a critic, played by Michael T Coleman, dressed in Shakespearean clothes, later becomes another actor to the inner play. (He plays Tom Metcaff on June 19). Also Stage Manager Charles Stearns played by Alfredo Loggia doubles as well as an actor.

If one loves farce and slat stick or the Three stooges see this show.

For information about the remaining Hollywood Fringe performances [see their site](#). For information about future performances see the Crescent Troupe [Face Book page](#).

SUGGESTED LINKS

- › Shakespeare four hundred plays at the Hollywood Fringe
- › Gangster "Hamlet" at the Hollywood Fringe
- › 'I was Hamlet' poetry dance and politics at the Hollywood Fringe
- › 'Winter is Coming' the musical adaptation of 'Game of Thrones' Hollywood Fringe
- › Shakespeare four hundred plays at the Hollywood Fringe

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