

[AXS ENTERTAINMENT](#) / [ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT](#) / [PERFORMING ARTS](#)

'Taming of the Show' musical prehistoric Shakespeare at the Hollywood Fringe

June 20, 2016

9:00 PM MST

[View all
6 photos](#)

Cast Press images from the show "Taming of the Show" at the Hollywood Fringe 2016 Jeff DeCrosta (Eddie Littlejeans) and Steve Peterson (Hilary Nikademus)

Photo used with permission from Melissa Blue Ward.

"Taming of the Show" produced by Little Candle Productions and directed and written by Blake Walker is a musical dark comedy taking on the [Shakespeare's](#) dramatic device of a play within a play. In this case the play within is a nontraditional interpretation of Shakespeare's "[Taming of the Shrew](#)" attempting to send the audience back to the time of dinosaurs and mixed with aspects of many of his Romantic comedies of love. Truth the real story is one of love that is forbidden much like Romeo and Juliet but with an actor's choice for a happy ending.

The star crossed lovers of the tale are played by Jeff DeCrosta (Eddie Littlejeans) and Chineze Enekechi (Annie). Eddie is the song driven new stage manager brought on by Hilary Nikademus (actor Steve Peterson) to work with the very neurotic director Montana Staislavski (actor Mark Forget).

Brayden Stryker (actor Greg Steinbrecher) plays the male lead of the inner play and the rival to Eddie for Annie's hand. Other characters in the play include Betty Turnipseed (actor Paula Deming) who is another actor in the inner play and Ronald Jeremy (actor Anthony Papstrat) an overly dedicated actor.

The highlights of this show are the songs, deftly accompanied by pianist Billy Gill. Jeff DeCrosta and Chinese Enekechi have skilled voices and club dance moves. Instead of fight scenes there are dance scenes parodying another musical based on a different Shakespeare play "West Side story." The ending comes as a surprise as is who lives and who dies. This is not "Taming of the Shrew" nor is it quite "Romeo and Juliet." The final message is a paradox, the theatre can be cruel but so is life and taking a quote from the character Annie: "believe in yourself."

For more information about the [Hollywood](#) fringe performances see [their website](#), for information about [Little Candle Productions](#) shows and performances see their site.

SUGGESTED LINKS

- [Shakespeare's 'MacDeth' political commentary as farce at Hollywood Fringe](#)
- ['I was Hamlet' poetry dance and politics at the Hollywood Fringe](#)
- [All female 'Complete Works of Shakespeare \(Abridged\) at the Hollywood Fringe](#)
- [Shakespeare four hundred plays at the Hollywood Fringe](#)
- [Romeo and Juliet: An ASL Love Story expressive physical emotion at the Fringe](#)



Laura Tull

LA Performing Arts Examiner

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