

**fringe**NYC™

WHAT THEY SAID ABOUT

'05

**"THE MOST HYPED FRINGE FESTIVAL IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD RETURNS TO TAKE OVER NEW YORK'S DEADLY AUGUST THEATER SCENE WITH ITS USUAL 200-AND-COUNTING SHOWS. DON'T EVEN TRY TO IGNORE IT. RESISTANCE IS FUTILE."**

NEW YORK TIMES

"Gentle Theatregoers, it's that time of year again...when summer is taken over by the amazing New York International Fringe Festival. Why get excited about the Fringe? Because unlike so many commercial productions tailored to inoffensively appeal to mass audiences, Fringe shows tend to be quirky, individual, and passionate. Thanks to the efforts of Producing Artistic Director Elena K. Holy and the other wonderful Fringe staffers and volunteers, the festival virtually shimmers with fresh artistic approaches, a wide range of voices and styles, high energy, and delightful surprises.

While Fringe productions are both low-budget and inexpensive to see (\$15 per ticket -- and even less if you buy in bulk), the best of them are as fine and memorable as the priciest play. And they're likely to take you to places that no show in midtown ever will. (This was epitomized by a teen visiting the Fringe a few years ago who told wealthy parents trying to lure her uptown, "But I don't want to see a show on Broadway. I want to see something COOL.")"

HYREVIEWS.COM

"Don't fear the Fringe. Yes, much of what you see at FringeNYC, a two-week performance showcase, is off-off Broadway stuff, but you'll also find traditional plays and musicals and a lot of generally frothy summer fare. A fair amount of the action happens in Washington Square Park, where you can see free productions..., and where theater and dance companies will offer preview performances of their shows. On weekends, kids can meet actors here at "Fort FringeJR" and learn about the art of performance. There's also "FringeU" for aspiring thespians, offering classes in everything from shameless self-promotion to walking on stilts"

FODOR'S TRAVEL

[FringeNYC is one of]

"10 cultural institutions, arts organizations, and venues that weren't around ten years ago that we can't live without now..."

TIME OUT NEW YORK

**"PASSION PLAYS - THIS YEAR'S FringeNYC IS AS FEISTY, AND UNFETTERED, AS EVER...Merit and talent are a given, as well as adding to the festival's trademark mix of diversity...But there's another, more elusive component...FringeNYC is all about making something out of nothing...That scrappy exuberance is palpable no only to the participating FringeNYC artists and volunteers, but also, ultimately, to the audience... Last year, more than 60,000 people saw a FringeNYC show and for many, it was their first theatrical experience. Accessibility is key, and miraculously, tickets are still just \$15 - about the same as the surcharge those ticket agencies tack onto already steep Broadway prices."**

GAY CITY NEWS