

Director's Note:

An excerpt of a conversation I recently had:

Nameless Critic Friend: "But "No Exit"? Really?"
Bastion: "Surprise?"
NCF: "Don't you think that's a little... overdone?"
Bastion.: "It's a play, not eggs. And FUCK NO."

This play is philosophy in motion, a many-elbowed "eternal issue?" tackle to the mouth, throat, gut, and groin delivered with the best of possible intentions: to wake people the fuck up. We just gave a man to the title of He Who Could Screw The Free World With A Sneeze because he said nice things about our potential and made YouTube videos ("Leave Britney Alone" guy in 2012). People spend hours agonizing over Myspace/Twitter/ Facebook, crafting their Inter-selves more deftly and with more consideration than they do their day-to-day interactions with people. And nevermind the paradoxical disdain-cum-reverence with which we view critics. We are Inez, Garcin, and Estelle (there are A LOT of Estelles). Seriously, the truth of the matter is that I fear the continued pertinence of this piece.

Director- Bastion Carboni
Stage Manager- Nick Pena
Garcin- Rommel Sulit
Inez- Jen Brown
Estelle- Helyn Rain Messenger
Valet- Natalie Navar
Costume Design- Olivia Pepper
Set Design- Emily Pate, Katie Rose Pipkin, and Al Bianchi

Cast:

Rommel Sulit (Garcin) is a stage and screen actor with recent credits in Austin Playhouse's "A Flea in Her Ear" and Steve Mould's workshop production of "The Problem Box" at UT's Cohen New Works Festival. He trained at the School at Steppenwolf and realizes the more he does, the less he knows. Chew on that, Sartre.

Jen Brown (Inez) majored in Acting and Sound Design at the University of Oklahoma before moving here 5 years ago and co-founding the Vestige Group, of which she is Co-Artistic Director. Recent roles include Sadie in "A Matter of Taste", Mom in "Gorilla Man", and Sara in "Stop Kiss" (B. Iden Payne nomination). She has also worked with Zach Scott's Project Interact, Austin Shakespeare Festival, and Kids Acting. Jen wants to thank the cast and crew for making Hell so damned enjoyable and, as always, thanks to Mom, Dad, and Dell.

Helyn Rain Messenger (Estelle) is a recent graduate from St. Edward's University where she received a BA in Theater Arts. She's quite thrilled to be a part of this production and would love to thank Bastion, Rommel, Jen and Natalie for all the fun times we've had thus far. Also, thanks Mom and Daddy-o. love you so much.

Natalie Navar (Valet) is an avian actress living in a pulchritudinous pink palace inhabited by similarly pulchritudinous palacians.

Nick Pena (Stage Manager) recently assistant-directed "Suburbia" and performed in "Lysistrata" at Southwestern University, where he is a junior. In summer '08 he was a research assistant at the Rhodoppi International Theatre Laboratory.

Super-huge graciousness to the following:

Emily Pate, Alison Kuo, Russell Etchen, Samuel Ladach-Bark, Evan James, Josh Coffee/ Llano Wines, Dan Solomon, Sarah Saltwick, Donny Rodriguez, Dan Solomon, all the moms and dads not formally thanked in the bios, and various vendors of coconut water. This show would be lesser without you.

Upcoming Production :

A MATTER OF TASTE

Written by Bastion Carboni

October 2009

"Irreverent, smart-alecky writing that
delivers a good time"

-Austin Live Theatre blog