

THEATRE REVIEW

Four plays in one at Writing In The Margins



Date: 16.10.08



Nadia Williams and Martin Aukland perform One More Trick from Writing In The Margins

This enthralling quartet of 15-minute vignettes rub up against each other with a marked contrast in styles.

The genteel Bittern End is gloriously executed, as twitchers Bob (John De Barham) and Annette (Jasmin Darke) strike up a rapport and rake over their shared past. Loose Connections' incisive take on mental decline finds Marion (Darke again) helping the increasingly sinister Jason (Gerard Cooke) act out his King Lear fixation.

Karaoke For One is sparky, too with Dave (Duncan Bonner) crooning his way through a nervous breakdown. But Alex Boyt's wildly engaging One More Trick steals the show, as the increasingly palpable sexual tension between a magician (Martin Aukland) and his long-suffering assistant (Nadia Williams) peaks with a genuinely nerve-wracking climax.

Until Oct 25, Alma Tavern & Theatre, 16-20 Alma Vale Road, Clifton, Bristol. 8.30pm Tue to Sat, £8, £6 concs. Tel: 0117 946 7899. www.theatre-west.co.uk

VELIMIR ILIC