



Tuesday, March 13, 2001

How to describe RESA FANTASTISK MYSTISK?

Or even pronounce it?

The genius of this 75-minute production is not so much what's happening onstage as what is happening around it. It's something that must be seen to be fully understood.

The Los Angeles-based Burglars of Hamm and The Ghost Road Company bring to the stage the lost masterpiece of 19th-century Swedish playwright Lars Mattsun. Never heard of him? No matter. The show's director, Todd Merrill, provides us with a running commentary—courtesy of headsets—throughout the play, which includes such need-to-know information about the playwright as his favorite dessert.

Meanwhile, onstage, tortured artist Philip (Albert Dayan) is about to marry Mariah (Selina Smith), who suffers from a bizarre unnamed affliction, which may or may not have anything to do with her bandaged hands. Philip embarks on a journey to self-discovery during which he encounters a cat, a gardener, a candle maker, a general and a matador.

Ultimately, the play is about none of these things—and it works.

— Pam Sitt

(SEATTLE FRINGE FESTIVAL REVIEW)

