

Hip Shot: *Isis & Vesco Investigate the Curious Death of Dr. Freud*

BY LINDSEY BOYLE — JUL 18, 2014 9 AM

 Sixteen

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Fort Fringe — Redrum

Remaining Performances: Friday, July 18 at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 20 at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, July 24 at 7:45 p.m. Saturday, July 26 at 4 p.m.

They say: A psychoanalyst is dead. Enter an Egyptian goddess/NYPD detective and a fugitive financier. Can this duo navigate a range of suspects - not to mention an electric attraction - to solve the case? A clever mashup of genres and time periods.

Lindsey's Take: **Monique LaForce's** script throws around so many references — literary, mythological, historical, psychological and philosophical — that you may want to study up before tackling this one. The clever genre mashup gives something for everyone to enjoy, but consider it a challenge to keep up with all the jokes.

This is a *Law & Order*-style cop drama crossed with a psychoanalytic murder mystery in iambic pentameter, with an underlying confusion of the time-space continuum that brings Egyptian pharaohs and Freud together in modern times. And all that happens before anybody even dies.

The cast is excellent across the board, from **Cate Brewer's** NYPD/Isis combo to **Paolo Santayana's** gangsta Osiris. The cocky and comical Vesco is a highlight from Fringe royalty **Sun King Davis**, who directed *Rockwell's Universal SeXbots* in 2012 and *43 and 1/2: The Greatest Deaths of Shakespeare's Tragedies* in 2013. Clever writing, a strong director and a great cast make all the Freudian slips worth it.

See it if: You think you're clever enough to keep up with all the references. **Skip it if:** You want to sleep with your mother.

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