



## PRINCE TREVOR AMONGST THE ELEPHANTS

*Cross-Eyed Bear Productions at the June Havoc Theatre as part of the Midtown International Theatre Festival*

Subtitled "A Big Epic Naked Ridiculous Shakespearean Fairy Tale Play for Adults," *Prince Trevor Amongst the Elephants* contains a mélange of styles that reveals a profound identity crisis. Written by Duncan Pflaster as an homage to Charles Ludlam and his theatre of the ridiculous, the pastiche the playwright intends becomes a mishmash on stage.

Although blending the Bard, Mamet, and Perrault sounds like a laugh, *Prince Trevor* accomplishes none of the goals of its predecessors; instead, it turns humor to cliché, shock to superfluity, and morals to moralization. No one seems more confused by the conflicting styles than the characters themselves; their stumbling over iambic pentameter is initially cheeky, then becomes cumbersome when one realizes that the actors can't handle the verse either. Playing on a bare stage with minimal and often detracting lighting, the company's attempted earnestness is out of place in Pflaster's world.

*Presented by Cross-Eyed Bear Productions as part of the Midtown International Theatre Festival at the June Havoc Theatre, 312 W. 36th St., NYC.*

*July 16–Aug. 2. Remaining performances: Tue., July 22, 6:30 p.m.; Fri., July 25, 9:30 p.m.; Mon., July 28, 8:30 p.m.; Sat., Aug. 2, 9:30 p.m.*

*(212) 279-4200 or [www.ticketcentral.com](http://www.ticketcentral.com).*

**Reviewed by Nicole Villeneuve**

*Published on BackStage.com on July 22, 2008.*

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