

Fringe 2010: Fringe Top 10—Numbers 1 through 5

By Matthew A. Everett | August 3, 2010



#3

O(h)

Casebolt & Smith

Do I really need to post anything other than this video clip?

OK, how about their Fringe show last year Casebolt & Smith – Speaking Out was five star fun start to finish? I was not the only one at the Fringe Lottery happy to hear that they were coming back to visit this year.

How about they recently sent me an email that began... "It's hard to believe it has been almost a year since we were having a beer with you and your mom at Bedlam! We are so excited to be coming back for Fringe." This after a tour of Ireland and the UK. They're just as good company offstage as on.

Their press release declares, "Their 2010 show O(h) promises to be just as comedic and clever, and a little bit more gay."

How gay? Well...

"A highlight of O(h) is the 'Gay Break,' a laugh out loud section of the dance in which Joel prances around the stage removing articles of clothing, while Liz mockingly warns the audience that if they look at his hips they might turn gay! O(h) is a totally original creation that offers a fast paced, complex and hilarious glimpse into the minds and pants of casebolt and smith."

OK, if you need a bit more detail...

"O(h) leads the audience on an unexpected journey, delivering complicated, quirky, virtuosic dance theater rife with thought provoking shifts of perspective and meaning. Speaking directly to the audience while dancing and sometimes singing, casebolt and smith tear apart their process of making dances, offering honest insights into their limitations as a duet company and their fear of becoming unoriginal. The dance evolves from demonstrations of what they can, can't and won't do into intricate dance phrases layered with pop culture references and iconic dancing images of the past- from Martha Graham to Tina Turner. They rewrite iconic rock songs, borrow from famous choreographers, use microphones in a variety of ways, sing show tunes and deploy brash, witty, perfectly-timed humor and multiple dance vocabularies, including gyrating hips, hand snaps and a dash of breakin'."

All this, plus when interviewed for the print edition of this Fringe profile, the poor guy on the other end of the line trying to keep up with another of my rambling Fringe monologues misheard me say "Casebolt & Smith" as "Kate Fulton Smith." Corrected online, but print is print. So if you can't find that show by Kate Fulton Smith that I recommended in the print edition, why not check out Casebolt & Smith instead? (Because it will make me chuckle for no good reason for the whole damn festival.)