

What are critics and audiences saying about "Does This Monologue Make Me Look Fat?"

MUST SEE:

"Does This Monologue Make Me Look Fat?"

With a cry of "O, Uterus, how do I quench your fire?" Amy Salloway guides us through **poignant, revelatory and funny** episodes of personal inventory and awakening. In a champagne smock and pink Converse hi-tops offset by red hair in pigtails, Salloway is **engaging and energetic, balancing her innocence and charm with wry and witty observations that cut to the core of emotional vulnerability**. In her central monologue, Salloway takes us to a "body image conference" that becomes her immersion into lesbianism. She feels "like Pinocchio walking into a world of boys," and we're thankful for the window into her world.

– *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

"Salloway is...**an appealing and marvelously funny performer**. With 'Monologue', you can also add the adjectives **brave and original**. How else to describe this **fireball of talent**, who opens her show with an ode to her uterus?"
-- *The Ottawa Citizen*

"...utterly fearless, absolutely hysterical."

-- *CURVE Magazine (Top 10 GLBT Shows of 2006)*

"Amy Salloway is **an adorable bundle of talented energy**, the kind who can deliver graphic details about participating in an eight-woman orgy that time she became a weekend lesbian and make the experience seem **entirely relatable and not at all weird**. Not easy, I imagine. Most every moment of the Minneapolis actor/writer's one-woman show *Does This Monologue Make Me Look Fat?* rings true. And that includes the funny moments as well as the poignant ones. The play is about how one fat girl makes her way in the world, a fat girl who can't find the relationship she needs, who never really feels she can find enough love, who is still trying to find out "how not to think of myself as a giant slab of ham." **Salloway's take on the matter is the very best kind -- funny, tender, not self-indulgent or blaming. The message is universal, too. One doesn't need to have struggled with weight issues or dabbled with the same sex to get feeling lonely or not good enough for this world.** "

-- *The Ottawa Sun*

"The show with the best title in the Fringe lives up to its promise. Amy Salloway delivers a series of short, personal monologues, ranging from a menstrual prayer to a reflection on the grocery-shopping habits of lonely single women. The centrepiece is a **cleverly structured and side-splitting** account of her weekend plunge into lesbianism at a Women of Substance conference.

These monologues make Salloway look **smart, funny, fearlessly candid, and generously endowed with talent.**"

–*The Georgia Straight*

"Destined to be famous, Amy Salloway is **refreshingly wide-eyed and open-hearted in a medium dominated by cynicism and smart-ass comments.** And then there's the sex thing. A truly endearing production."

-- *David Hansen, artistic director, Cleveland's Bad Epitaph Theatre*

"Salloway's **writing is superbly crafted, her delivery polished, her comic-timing unsurpassed,** and her raging imagination harnessed to her theatrical art like the radioactive core of a nuclear reactor."

-- *The Halifax Herald*

"Raw and fearless...an 'A' for chutzpah!"

-- *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*

MUST SEE...(Salloway's) script is **endlessly clever and accessible** — a true feat considering it could have been just an hour of "woman of substance" jokes and rants. Instead, 'Does this Monologue...' boils Salloways' life down into thoughts, emotions and impulses that are **universal, relevant and poignant.** Who am I? Do I like myself? Can I handle being alone? **Her insightful study makes for great theater;** her self-deprecating candor makes for great fringe.

-- *CityBeat (Cincinnati)*

"Salloway is **smart, funny, observant and honest,** with a mind that zooms into orbit around a yet-to-be-discovered planet."

– *The Cincinnati Enquirer*

"...disarmingly intimate...**a comic tour-de-force.**"

-- *The Ottawa Citizen*

"I was stunned by Amy's talent and bravery. Honest, hilarious and adorable, she deserves to be seen by many more people. Her stories are beautifully crafted and acted."

-- *MN Fringe Audience Review*

"Brilliantly funny, radiantly rendered...Salloway's sketches attempt to make sense of the world a single woman lives in, striving for something better than what she has, trying to understand what she wants, and to convince herself that she's allowed to ask for it...(her) monologues manage to familiarize that which might otherwise be strange, and to do so with a humor that **makes a momentary community out of an audience gathered in the anonymity of darkness.**"

-- *MNartists.org*

Bright-eyed Salloway is **funny and tender and polished and self-aware. She proves that is possible to tell old stories with a new voice.**

-- *Cincinnati Enquirer*

“... **An amazing writer**, this girl who can parody Shakespeare as easily as she can write about an orgy of Fat Lesbians as seen by a straight woman.”

– *CBC Radio*

" **MUST-SEE: Salloway's writing is as perceptive as it is hilarious** and her theme is our universal need for acceptance. You'll want this appealing performer from Minneapolis to be your new best friend.”

-- *The Ottawa Citizen*

Awards:

Best Solo Performance of 2003 – Lavender Magazine

Critic's Pick – 2005 Cincinnati Fringe

Cincinnati Enquirer Acclaim Award, June 2005

Best Comedy, Best Original Script, 2006 Columbus GLBT Theatre Festival

CURVE Magazine Best of Lesbian Theater 2006