

TAP actors test talents in a sketchy comedy

The Aldershot Players is currently staging Norm Foster's comedy *Office Hours* about which director Rozz Woodcock explains, "... we created our colour blocked set to suggest six spaces in one..." but it doesn't really work too well.

Much of the angular set is painted in a distracting, brilliant red. Happily, once cast members got into their stride, which on opening night took a little while, it was easy enough to forget the set and concentrate on Foster's plot and dialogue.

Six intertwined sketches contain a series of running gags as a competent cast of seven represents more than a dozen characters.



Show Notes

Vic Hyde

POST CONTRIBUTOR

There is media station manager (Melanie Staley) about to demote an aging reporter (Peter Gruner) who becomes a news story when he's stabbed by a one-armed man (Ash Hunter).

Two inept film producers (Scott Broe and Bev Mattson) listen to a familiar movie plot from an over-the-hill director (John Oleg Krawchenko) and an agent

(Hunter) comes up with some creative attempts to explain incriminating pictures his wife (Staley) has had taken.

The second act begins with a domineering mother and her obsequious husband with hidden depths (good stuff from Mattson and Krawchenko),

their gay lawyer son (Scott Broe) and some neat comedy between an overweight jockey (Gruner) and his boss (Bruno Chioviti).

It concludes in very funny fashion in a sexually-frustrated psychiatrist's (Staley) office with earlier characters returning as the various elements come together.

Most characterizations work well enough and while on opening night, timing was an occasional problem, there's a whole lot of fun in this TAP version of *Office Hours* that continues until April 29 (905-381-1441).