



Hi! Drama

August 20, 2015 ·

MARK SAVITT REVIEWS THE PORTABLE DOROTHY PARKER  
Grove Goddess Productions presents the New York City premiere  
Written by Annie Lux  
Directed by Lee Costello  
Performed by Margot Avery

It's 1943, the US is at war and Dorothy Parker's husband Alan Campbell has gone off to be a soldier. Viking Press wants to publish a one volume portable edition of Parker's work and they send a young woman editor to help Dorothy select the work to be included. It's a grand opportunity to reminisce about the Algonquin Round Table, Hollywood, Europe, and the numerous illustrious acquaintances of her life. At this work session, Dorothy (Margot Avery) is as cynical and as funny as in her writing. She's also quite hard on herself and her friends.

The wags at the Algonquin achieved only wise-cracks rather than genuine wit and didn't get much work done. F. Scott Fitzgerald was not one of her better lovers, and Zelda was a mere Kewpie doll who said things just for effect. Hemingway, a "G-d" is above such carping because of the quality of his writing and his social conscience. After all, Parker informs us that she was instrumental in starting the writers' union and was very active in Anti-Nazi work in Hollywood.

For more quips on Lilian Hellman, Robert Benchley, Alexander Woolcott among others, you will just have to see the show. Ms. Avery keeps us amused for 90 minutes, rather long for a solo show. As when you dip into the Portable Dorothy Parker book, you will love your encounter in this theater piece with Parker's unique voice and experience.  
HAPPY FACE

EVA HEINEMANN ADDS:

This was beyond enjoyable and so informative. I had no idea she started SAG and had affairs with such illustrious people. We get to hear her delightful doggeral and she is a doggeral rescuer.  
Margot Avery has impeccable delivery and I could have spent hours in her company.  
HAPPY FACE

Venue #4 64E4 Mainstage

Remaining performances:  
Thursday, August 27 at 4:15pm;  
Sunday, August 30 at 2:30pm

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