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One on The Aisle by Sam Birnkrant

by Marilyn Plowman
Guest Reviewer

Sam Bobrick, co-author of *Norman Is That You?*, must have "funny" in his blood. His new play *Are You sure?* directed by Allan Miller at the Back Alley Theatre is

both imaginative and hilarious.

The play is designed to keep the audience bewildered. Just when we think we know what is going on, Bobrick startles us. It is a murder-mystery, or is it? It appears to be set in the library or is it a "home" at all? Who is killing who? Even more important, who is who?

The cast connects with the humor of the play, each other, and the audience. Lois Nettleton easily moves from zany to dramatic as the pivotal character, Caroline. Her sometimes husband, David, sometimes "someone else" is Ronny Cox, whose professional stage presence transports an audience to Broadway.

Jeffrey Haddow is delightfully humorous as the confused detective but less convincing as "nasty" Charlie. Catherine McLeod, Jack Collins and Ellen Maxted are wonderful as well. They handle whom-ever they are effectively.

Fortunately, Allan Miller understands how to direct Bobrick's masterfully theatrical maze. The pacing, rhythm, and sound of the play keeps the audience off balance and his sensitiv-

ity to what is funny and how to accomplish it, is evident throughout the play.

Are You sure? is watching the mind of the author create. It is as filled with the unexpected as Bobrick is himself. The one thing sure about *Are You Sure?* is it is a sure bet!

Are You Sure? will play Thursdays through Sundays at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$9, \$7 for seniors and students, day of performance only. *Are You Sure?* will play a limited run through March 27. Information: 780-2240.