

THEATER | May 7, 2012 | ADD A COMMENT

World Premiere of "As Long As We Both Shall Live" at American Heartland Theatre

In the world premiere of "As Long As We Both Shall Live" by Sean Grennan, at the [American Heartland Theatre, \(http://www.ahkdc.com\)](http://www.ahkdc.com) Lt. Dobbs arrests Jessalyn Kincaid, who plays Addison Ashe, for murder when he should be arresting her for stealing the show! With tone of voice, facial expressions and body language Kincaid brought the character to life, winning the hearts of the audience.

Sean Grennan's work isn't new to American Heartland Theatre. His works include Married Alive!, Another Night Before Christmas and A Dog's Life. In September American Heartland will have the Kansas City debut of his play Making God Laugh. Grennan is married to actress Kathy Santen, who is appearing in Wicked on Broadway.

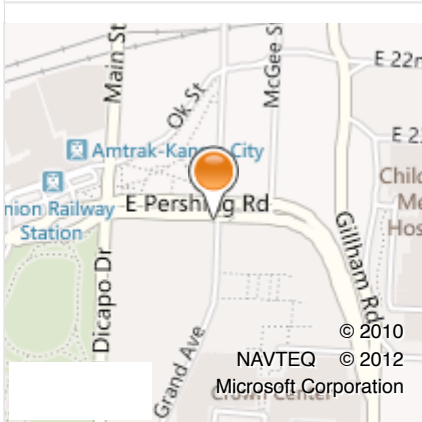
Grennan has brought a first class comedy and murder mystery to the Kansas City entertainment scene. The laughs are abundant as Grennan pokes fun at anything and everything from Olathe to Kansas City, religion to the F.B.I. Though the audience gets caught up in the humor of the moment the murder mystery is complicated enough to overhear audience members commenting on the possible murderers as they walk to the lobby at intermission.

Melinda MacDonald plays Mrs. Wilcox, an upper crust wealthy socialite and the mother of Jamie Wilcox. MacDonald does a very good job in the role and sounds and acts as we imagine members of upper society would act and sound, with sarcasm and a lack of tact.

Jamie Wilcox, played by Jeff Smith, is a handsome aristocrat who appears to be in love with his company as much as with his fiancé Addison. Smith who does a good job of portraying the subject is overpowered by the performance of Kincaid.

Doogin Brown who portrays Reverend Mountain is believable as a member of the clergy who is introduced to high society and handles it by catering to what Mrs. Wilcox wants. Grennan begins a humorous bit with the reverend in the beginning of the play and the payoff of laughs doesn't come till late in the last act.

Rating for "As Long As We Both Shall Live" by Sean Grennan:



Location: 2400 Grand Kansas City, Mo.

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world premiere As Long As We Both Shall Live

As Long As We Both Shall Live

Charles Fugate plays a duo role as Raul Monelban and Lt. Dobbs of the police force. As Monelban he is very believable as a gay foreign party planner but as Lt. Dobbs his lines at times seemed forced and didn't flow naturally.

Overall the play was very enjoyable and seemed to have few if any flaws for an opening night, let alone a world premiere.



Steve Wilson, Kansas City Theater Examiner

Steve has written two books, one fiction and one based on actual 911 calls to local police departments. He is currently working on another fiction title. He originated the police column with the Johnson County Herald in the 70's and continued it until the paper ceased publishing. Many local...