

Gay City NEWS

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THEATER Staging Their Shows on the Fly

BY DAVID KENNERLEY

A gay, surrealist playwright based in Los Angeles named John Sinner dreams of bringing his kabuki-meets-vaudeville inspired plays to the big-time. But he's got multiple sclerosis, so what would be a challenge for any struggling theatrical artist can be doubly daunting. His partner of 16 years, James, has been supportive so far. But when Sinner's work is accepted at a prestigious theater festival, can they pull it off?

If you think this is the plot summary of one of the 202 plays on offer from the 12th Annual New York International Fringe Festival, you'd be mistaken. It's actually just one of the dramas behind the dramas — a diptych of edgy performance pieces titled "2 by Sinner" — that make this quirky festival so irresistible.

Surprising, boundary-busting entertainment? Absolutely.

A play about a male-on-male-on-male threesome, and it's not a sex farce? Now that's risk-taking. Written and directed by Joe Salvatore, "III" explores the true, mid-20th century story of writer Glenway Wescott and MoMA curator Monroe Wheeler who spiced up their 60-year relationship by adding photographer George Platt Lynes to the mix — for 15 years! This complex, provocative character study promises to keep you off balance, like a good three-way should.

The 17-day event, produced by The Present Company and billed as the largest performance fest in North America, is also about hungry artists, against punishing odds, creating magic from mayhem, sharing pieces of their souls

"III" PORTRAYS A 15-YEAR THREE-WAY AMONG MID-20TH CENTURY MEN OF ARTS & LETTERS

Miracle Workers

At the Fringe, On a Wing and a Prayer