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Pepperdine University (USA) The Interference by Lynda Radley



Distorted realities as a rape victim struggles for justice questioning attitudes and myths around rape

When a university sports star rapes a fellow student it is the survivor who seems to be on trial - struggling with the very forces that are supposed to protect her. The Interference, by Scotland-based playwright and Fringe First winner, Lynda Radley, explores the aftermath of a crime and the disturbing attitudes that lie beneath the skin of contemporary society.

Set in an American university, and inspired by events in the USA and UK, the questions it raises go far beyond the campus. Realities become distorted, the attacker is portrayed as a wronged man, the victim's voice is drowned out and the central issue of justice is at risk as vested interests scramble to defend themselves.

Radley, a past Fringe First winner, says: 'The play looks at the forces that are unleashed when a man of talent and privilege is accused of a rape – in this case a university sports star. The fans refuse to accept their hero can do wrong, there are outpourings of hate on the internet, the media line up behind the star, the legal system is geared against her and the university authorities are terrified of damaging their reputation with funders.'

The Interference has its world premiere at the Edinburgh Fringe. It has been commissioned by Pepperdine Scotland, who are also Fringe First winners, and the cast consists of students from **Pepperdine University** in the USA. It is directed by Cathy Thomas-Grant and features a live-mixed soundscape by CATS award nominee Michael John McCarthy.

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