

## [74] BEYOND THE LIGHT (Leila Ghaznavi and Pantea Productions): Fringe review

September 24, 2013 - Julius Ferraro



Beyond the Light is a devised puppetry/theater/music/acrobatics/dance exploring unrequited love through whimsical, nighttime wonderment. A blonde boy and a black-haired girl stand in separate shadows, glimpsing one-another across a chasm of light. They reach but cannot touch. They struggle and they fearfully recoil. When darkness consumes them, figures in black robes produce fluorescent butterflies. Glowing moths flicker to life out of emptiness.

Leila Ghaznavi has devised some truly remarkable shadow and light puppetry. Gorgeous birds and insects and shockingly expressive masks are created out of simple tools LEDs and flashlights and aerial silks. Any landscape present on the simple stage is made of light and shadow. Less imaginative is the actual staging; at times I found myself wishing the puppeteers and acrobats would do more with the fantastic inventions they brought on stage. The glowing blue butterflies generally just swoop in circles, their introductions providing the biggest surprises. An aerial hoop and two silks are performed on brilliantly in a couple of scenes, but generally stand upstage, unused but creating the expectation that they will be used. That said, this play has the constant upbeat energy of the pumping indie rock it plays to; it desires to make the most out of every moment, it just seems that it doesn't completely know how to, yet. [Performance Garage]. **September 8-21, 2013, [fringearts.ticketleap.com/beyond-the-light/](http://fringearts.ticketleap.com/beyond-the-light/).**

Share this:



Related



Puppet slams, Faust, and Ghost Stories: Interview with Leila Ghaznavi  
In "Fringe Festival"



SILKEN VEILS (Pantea Productions): 2016 Fringe review 52  
In "Fringe Festival"



Fringe in Sketch 9: SOLDIER BEAR (Leila and Pantea Productions)  
In "Fringe Festival"

Dance, Fringe Festival, Fringe reviews, Reviews - Tags: Beyond the Light, Fairmount, Leila Ghaznavi, Pantea Productions, Performance Garage, shadow puppets - 1 comment

### About the author



Julius Ferraro

Julius Ferraro is a journalist, playwright, performer, and project manager in Philadelphia. He is co-founder of Curate This and editor-in-chief of thINKingDANCE. His recent plays include *Parrot Talk*, *Micromania*, and *The Death and Painful Dismemberment of Paul W. Auster*.

[about](#) . [contact](#) . [advertising](#) . [support](#)

Support Phindie operations

Donate



Search

**One thought on “[74] BEYOND THE LIGHT (Leila Ghaznavi and Pantea Productions): Fringe review”**

**Pingback:** Expansion | Notes on Words

**Leave a Reply**

Enter your comment here...

Talking 'Bout A Revolution: Thoughts on seeing LES MIZ at the Academy Thom Nickels contemplates revolution after seeing LES MIZ at the Academy



by Thom Nickels



SENSITIVE GUYS (InterAct): Satirizing the dialectic of sex What's being satirized in this social satire? Good question, with several answers.

by Toby Zinman

This article sponsored by



Dance in Sketch: URBAN MEADOW (BodyVox) Chuck Schultz sketches BodyVox at the Prince.

by Chuck Schultz



THE HUMANS (Walnut St): A nauseatingly annoying play, but maybe that's the point THE HUMANS is a difficult play to like or to watch

by Ralph Malachowski

**Sign up for the Phindie mailing list.**

Email Address :

[Join now!](#)

[Follow us on Twitter.](#)

[Like us on Facebook](#)

From the archives...

### Jennifer Blaine tells Phindie a **DIRTY JOKE: An interview with a Fringe funnywoman**



Jennifer Blaine (jenniferblaine.wordpress.com) had a one-woman show in the Philadelphia Fringe Festival for the first ten years of its existence (beginning in 1997). more...

Share this:

[f Facebook](#)

[Reddit](#)

[Twitter](#)

[g+ Google](#)

Read these now...



**THE HUMANS (Walnut St): A nauseatingly annoying play, but maybe that's the point**



**SENSITIVE GUYS (InterAct): Satirizing the dialectic of sex**



**Talking 'Bout A Revolution:**  
Thoughts on seeing LES MIZ at the Academy



**A DOLL'S HOUSE (Arden):** Ibsen for our times



**COPENHAGEN (Lantern):** Observable quantities

Follow us on Twitter.

Like us on Facebook

Contact us

Sign up for our mailing list.

Email Address :

Join now!



Phindie  
967 likes

Like Page coverage of Philadelphia the

Be the first of your friends to like this

