

Luxemburger Wort

Greyhounds, by Actors Repertory Theatre

A journey you won't forget



Rhona Richards as Mercy

Photo: Pierre Matgé

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By Sarita Rao

A bus stop in rural Oklahoma at 1am in the morning. The trash-strewn stage has a bench and an old call box – that's it.

Daryl Lisa Fazio's play "Greyhounds" doesn't begin with dialogue, but introduces us to Toby, played by Christine Probst, as we watch her waiting for a bus and writing a story.

And stories are the theme of this play. As with Greyhound buses, the audience is taken on a journey through America, from Illinois to Tennessee, via Colorado.

Toby, speaks with a southern American drawl, hates most 'people' and is witty. Mercy, played by Rhona Richards, her opposite in many ways, a prim and proper housewife from Illinois.

The audience is taken on a bumpy bus journey through the lives of these women. Mercy appears to be a textbook happy housewife, but we find out she is more, when she says she is “tired of being invisible”.



Photo: Pierre Matgé

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Toby is a deep south working-class girl – aggressive but with a very soft underbelly, whose obligatory religious past forces her to make jokes and call Mercy “Salvation” and “Holy”, to hide her own dark secret.

Both women are on a collision course to deep friendship simply through sharing their innermost secrets, starting with a momentous discovery at the bus stop, in the middle of night, in the middle of nowhere.

This is a fast-moving, fast-talking play where the dialogue is gripping and the performances are too. The lines are delivered pitch-perfect and with synchronised timing by the two main actresses.

But it's not just a play about two people befriending each other. They each also take on the role of protagonists both past and present – Mercy's truck driver ride and husband Wade, and Toby's sex-starved boss, alcoholic mother and sleazy home-town preacher.

Christine Probst as Toby

Photo: Pierre Matgé

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Under the direction of Erik Abbott the play could so easily have been a nod to the film *Thelma*

and Louise, but it's far more riveting.

To find out what secrets these women unlock, watch performances on June 3, 4, 5 and 6 at 7.30pm and Sunday, June 7 at 2.30pm.

The play is neatly performed in one go (five scenes) lasting 1 hour and 20 minutes at Nature Elements Am Garage, Robin du Lac on Route d'Esch.

A post-show dinner is available, with reservations recommended. Tickets for the play are 20 Euros for adults and 10 Euros for children.

Additional costs apply for dinner. To book, email [**actorsrep.tickets@gmail.com**](mailto:actorsrep.tickets@gmail.com) ([**mailto:actorsrep.tickets@gmail.com**](mailto:actorsrep.tickets@gmail.com)) or call +352 35 63 39. For more information visit [**actorsrep.lu**](http://actorsrep.lu) ([**http://actorsrep.lu/**](http://actorsrep.lu))

Actors Repertory Theatre has also already announced the second play in their café theatre season – Donna Hoke's Flower in the Desert, to be performed in October this year.

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