



'THE ACCIDENTAL PERVERT': Andrew Goffman gives a fun performance in his hilarious one-man show

Theater Review

Accidental Pervert hilariously chronicles addiction to porn

The Accidental Pervert
Written by Andrew Goffman
Directed by Charles Messina
The Players Theatre
115 Macdougall Street, (212-475-1449)

www.theaccidentalpervert.com

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By Scott Harrah

In his one-man show, *The Accidental Pervert*, Andrew Goffman chronicles his addiction to pornography from boyhood to adult. However, the show is not simply a funny monologue about one man's former obsession with pornography; it's also a tribute to his late father. As Mr. Goffman tells us, he discovered his dad's stash of 96 X-rated videos in their Pennsylvania home, and this created a long preoccupation with adult material.

As almost any male (straight or gay) who grew up in the past 30 years can attest, masturbating to pornography is hardly anything shocking or shameful; it's simply a rite of passage for many. The real story in *The Accidental Pervert* is the connection Mr. Goffman feels to his father through pornography. He never explains why his parents' marriage didn't work out, but after his father left, Mr. Goffman discovered porn and fashioned his beliefs regarding what real-life sex would be all about. Through his misconceptions and fantasies, he formulated what his sexual experiences should be. However, for any grown male, hopefully and eventually, the real thing comes along and straightens out any false beliefs or myths. In Mr. Goffman's case, an ideal woman, marriage, and a baby girl helped him finally give up the adult videos.

Indeed, all this is very funny material, and every male can relate to some aspect of it, in some form or another, because his themes are universal. However, the real delight here is Mr. Goffman himself. His ease of regaling us with his tales and his comfort level on stage is enormous. His vibrant personality lends to the material and his energy is boundless. He has enough charm and savvy to make any episode or encounter in his life, no matter how odd or deranged, sound like an everyday, matter-of-fact occurrence. A real talent is at work here in *The Accidental Pervert*, for 90 minutes of clever entertainment.

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