





*nyc theatre info,
listings, and reviews*

In a Bucket of Blood

This show was found in the 2006-2007 season archive on nytheatre.com.

NOW PLAYING:

Tonight
Tomorrow
Plays
Musicals
For Kids & Families
Late Night
Cabaret/Comedy
New This Week
By Neighborhood
Physical Theatre

MORE LISTINGS:

Coming Attractions
Festival Calendar
One Night Only
Venue Listings

HELP ME CHOOSE A SHOW:

Reviewers' Picks
Ticket Discounts
Stars on Stage
Pick a Playwright
See Show Websites
Trip Planner
nytheatre Reviews

EXPLORE NYTHEATRE:

Subscribe to our
Newsletter
How to Buy Tickets
Interviews
nytheatre FactFile
People of the Year
nytheatre buzz
Links

REVIEW ARCHIVES:

Current Season
Previous Seasons

OTHER MEDIA:

RSS Feed

nytheatre.com review

Josephine Cashman · Jul 20, 2006

At Fergus' Pub, an Irish Dive Bar smack in the middle of Hell's Kitchen in 1988, sits Eddie Carey. He suspects that his longtime friend and Westie Boss, Nolan, has gotten into bed with the Italian Mafia and is setting Eddie up to take a fall for a murder of a fellow Irishman, gunned down earlier that day. Written

with rough and tumble flair by John Kearns, *In a Bucket of Blood* focuses on Eddie Carey as he is tortured by various visitors, both real and imagined. To his horror, Eddie finds himself doubting the friendship he has treasured for most of his life.

John Skocik is terrific as the paranoid and edgy Eddie Carey. We get to watch Eddie sift through the evidence of his life-long friendship with Nolan, how it has changed, or maybe how it hasn't, and the tension builds and builds to an inexorable climax. Also strong are Jamie Carroll as his wife Deirdre, Gary Gregg as Hill, one of Eddie's close criminal friends, and Rob Brennan, playing Tom, the almost Greek Chorus of a Barkeep. The cast works well and easily together, and their characters display a camaraderie that only can have arisen from growing up on the rough streets where even the police are in on the Take.

Director Michael Mellamphy delivers a sharp, tightly wound 70 minutes of life in Hell's Kitchen, complete with a rundown bar, moody lighting, and enough alcohol to pickle anyone's liver. The action is harsh, jagged, and never loses sight of the truly life-and-death conflict that comes with joining up with a bloody Mobster.

With whispers of *Waiting For Godot*, Kearns, Mellamphy and his cast have created a robust and visceral slice of life in the Irish Mob. It is a cautionary and poignant tale of the perils of friendship.

Author

John Kearns

Director

Michael Mellamphy

Producer

Boann Books and
Media at the Midtown
International Theatre
Festival