



Leading Lady Club Edinburgh Fringe Reviews

Playbill Feature:

<https://playbill.com/article/the-leading-lady-club-began-as-a-54-below-show-now-its-a-full-length-play>

Edinburgh Guide:

<https://edinburghguide.com/festival/2023/the-leading-lady-club-2023-greenside-infirmary-street-review-21334>

The Scotsman:

If you've ever been told that your symptoms are "probably nothing", that you're "not as hot as your profile picture", or that you're "pretty good for a woman" – or, indeed, if you know anybody who has heard anything like this – then you'll be engaged by *The Leading Lady Club*. Fresh from the US, this four-hander incisively explores medical negligence, sexual harassment, internalised misogyny and transphobia, among other issues.

Writer Sarah Hogewood cuts straight to the nitty-gritty of everyday life as a woman. The show strikes a near-perfect tone, following serious meditations with silliness (an anthropomorphised, hoodie-wearing period is a highlight). We are shown footage of Trump's "grab 'em" comment, which feels like a reference in need of an update, but it gets the stomach-churning point across. The cast are clearly talented and support each other well.

Bryan Stoops:

"I had the pleasure of seeing The Leading Lady Club during the evening of the 21st of August as the second production I had the pleasure of watching during my 2023 Fringe experience. First, a little context: I've been living in New York City for the past five years, and this is a very New York-centric show. It's not necessary to be a New Yorker for this show to resonate, there are just several NYC touches in this show that made me smile.

Second, as a cis male, there are many themes and ideas in this show that will resonate with the entire audience because they are human experiences. However, this show is filled with women expressing and emoting their unique experiences as women.

Third, all of the elements of this show are extremely well-done. The writing, the acting, the blocking, the design, and the tech all make for a thoughtful, affecting theatrical experience. The performers had many things to express and I had the opportunity to listen. None of the artists involved in this show are on attack mode, but some of the truths they have to share are heartbreaking. I highly recommend The Leading Lady Club, and I encourage every potential audience member to approach her/his/their experience of this excellent show with an open heart and active listening; the artists behind this moving piece of theatre have something to express! Highly recommended."

Daniel J:

"A deeply moving and poignant piece on what it means to be a woman walking through today's society. Equally heart-breaking and hysterical, the writing is spot-on and whip-smart. This playwright really knows how to reach your core and I want to read every single thing she writes. Wish I could see this play again and again and again. A must see!"

Andrea P:

"So glad we got handed a flyer for this one. Worth a watch. A powerful, insightful, moving little show that anyone who identifies as a woman will relate to. Well-written and directed. The actors were outstanding. Well done ladies."

Meredith McCormack:

"A really well-done show we stumbled upon at our first Fringe. Highly recommend for both women and men."