

I was pleasantly surprised by the Whistle Stop Theatre Company's Grief, Guilt, and Paranoia: The Madness of Poe. In my many year's as the former curator for the Edgar Allan Poe House in Baltimore I've seen many play's based on Poe, his life and works and sadly, most of them failed in their mission. So I approached this performance with trepidation. All of this concern was for naught! This is a must see Poe event! Not the standard actor dressed as Poe reciting stories and poems. It's obvious talent, creativity and imagination went into producing this unique Poe event.

I was so entertained and thrilled to see a diversity of Poe stories presented with dance and voices from the beyond! This performance held my attention for the entire run time. No dead spots, no dramatic pauses, it moved quickly and was most entertaining. Talent and creativity abounds in this unique take on Poe!

I was happy to see or rather experience The Premature Burial. It was well executed and held my attention to the climax of the story! All in all this was a successful "thinking outside the box" approach to Poe and the stage. The audience gave a robust applause at the conclusion of the performance thus proving it worked! Well done and I hope this group looks at Poe again for a future performance...forevermore! You'll see what everyone is raven about!

- Jeff Jerome, curator emeritus, formerly with the Poe House and Museum in Baltimore.