

# LAWEEKLY

## **SEX AND IMAGINING**

Reviewed by Lovell Estell III – April 12, 2007

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With a nod to Strindberg and Dürrenmatt, JP Allen's one-act is an entertaining but disquieting tale that explores the sexual pyrotechnics between genders. The two-character play opens harmlessly enough with a woman (Yvonne Fisher) motoring along on a dark road before stopping to give a stranded male traveler (Adam Bitterman) a ride. She claims to be en route to a house party, but when they arrive, the place is as quiet as a tomb (Jeff Rack's sparse set design is appropriately creepy). It isn't long before this puzzling, innocuous scenario turns risqué — and violent. These developments are only the beginning, however, and gradually it becomes obvious that the two share a disturbing history and that their relationship is infinitely more complex and dark than it first appears.

Allen's engaging script is filled with subtle ambiguities and unexpected turns, and its elegant yet mystifying finale puts one in mind of vintage Hitchcock. Fisher and Bitterman turn in fine performances that are excellent under Michael Franco's skilled direction.

SACRED FOOLS THEATER COMPANY, 660 Heliotrope Avenue, Los Angeles  
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