

Doubt: A Parable | Pond Playhouse | Theatre | Halifax, Nova Scotia

Sure Thing Opening

Doubt: A Parable

When: Wednesdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. and Sun., Sept. 28, 2 p.m. Continues through Oct. 4

Price: \$15/\$18

Outstanding professional theatre in Nova Scotia is recognized by the Merritt Awards, and productions like *Doubt: A Parable*, at Theatre Arts Guild make me wish that community theatre had something similar. Valerie MacKenzie would be a shoe-in for best leading actress. As the rigid Sister Aloysious, MacKenzie is both terrifying and humane. Vikki Humphrey and Sharleen Kalayil could duke it out for supporting actress. Humphrey gives a terrific performance as the innocent, impressionable Sister James, and Kalayil makes an indelible impression in the small role of a fierce mother. Roy Ellis' performance as Father Flynn is deceptive. At first it seems a simple straight-forward portrayal. But like the play itself, there is depth beyond what is immediately obvious. John Patrick Shanley's script may fill us with uncertainties, but there's no doubt that this production, with its fine performances and thoughtful, cohesive direction by Emily Jewer, is compelling and captivating. —*Kate Watson*

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