



["Non-Equity The Musical!" at The New York International Fringe Festival](#)

"Non-Equity The Musical!"

Book and Lyrics by Danielle Trzcinski

Music and Lyrics and Musical Direction by Paul D Mills

Directed by Christian Amato

Reviewed by Joseph Verlezza

Theatre Reviews Limited

After great anticipation and hearing the buzz from the seasoned fringe goers, I took my seat, prepared to enjoy a performance of "Non-Equity the Musical" currently appearing at the Players Theatre as part of the New York International Fringe festival: I was not disappointed. For the next hour and forty minutes, I found myself thoroughly entertained by a diverse cast of eight enthusiastic, talented (and of course) non-Equity performers. This show gives current or past non-union performers a chance to applaud their comrades as they relate to the all too familiar scenes that unfold, or perhaps bask in the fond memories of hard work, uncanny situations or valued friendships formed while reaching for the golden ring. Those not involved in "the business" get a fairly accurate, animated, comical view of how difficult it might be for inspired actors to realize and attain their dreams. Through melodic compositions, truthful lyrics and refined harmonies, these eight actors reveal their angst, inner thoughts and turmoil with a display of honestly resourced emotions. What brings this to the next level is that they are "true to the script" and have a great time loving what they do. They infect the audience with their spirit. All cast members have special individual strengths but it is as an ensemble that they shine.

On a constructive note, the material should be broader; it is a little heavy handed on the complaint side so it almost seems repetitive at times. Perhaps dwelling more on the positive aspects of the journey may produce a more well rounded script (after all, inspiration brought you this far). As a past non-Equity person and an Equity member for quite a while, this critic believes a focus on other reasons actors aspire to carry a card (other than auditions) can also be informative. Perhaps a comical musical parody, dreaming of health insurance, sanitary and comfortable working conditions, fair salary and pension. Just a thought to spark your creative minds.

What I can conclude is that whoever you might be, if you are in New York City during the Fringe Festival try to attend one of the remaining performances of this show. You will be entertained and treated to more than a few laughs as you are immersed in the lives of non-Equity performers.

NON EQUITY THE MUSICAL!

Presented by New York International Fringe Festival. Directed by Christian Amato, Musical Direction by Paul D Mills, Choreographed by Sam Doblick, Costumes by Leila Wolford, Lighting by Rachel Sevedge
The Band: Paul D Mills, piano; Chris Schultz, drums; Erik Barragan, guitar.

WITH: Emily Swan, Dominic Sellers Danielle Trzcinski, Keith Antone, Lindsey Morgan, Pierce Cassedy, Joe Donnelly and Nichole Turner.

All performances take place at The Players Theatre, 115 MacDougal Street in New York, NY. Tickets are available at www.fringenyc.org or 866-468-7619. \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Senior and Fringe Junior tickets available at the door for \$10. Running time: 1 hour 45 minutes with no intermission.