



British Theatre

with Peter Lathan

<http://britishtheatre.about.com/library/fringe00/blf00-01.htm#graft>

22 August 2000

George Dillon, Steven Berkoff's "disciple" for more than twenty years, tells the story of Harry, an actor, from his first audition for a local authority grant, through the highs and lows of a long career, to its end.

And a fine performance it is, an object lesson to Harry who never had Dillon's talents or skills. He doesn't hold the stage for an hour and a quarter: he is the stage on which Harry's life unfolds, sweeping the audience along with irresistible force.

The text is Berkoff at his best: insightful and tightly written. It is good to see him getting back to where we are used to seeing him, after the dire *Massage* of '97. In *Graft* we see the real Berkoff.

The play should be compulsory viewing for all who want to take up an acting career, for nothing could be more calculated to put them off. Harry's life is a sad one: yes, it provides us, the audience, with some very funny moments but, even in the (very) occasional high spot, a sense of futility and sadness pervades the story.

But above all else, excellently written though the play is, it is Dillon's performance which sticks in the mind, a virtuoso performance to cherish and a standard for the rest of the Fringe to live up to!

<http://www.britishtheatre.about.com/aboutuk/britishtheatre/library/weekly/aa082700a.htm>

27 August 2000

Looking Back at the Edinburgh Fringe 2000

**Best Actor - George Dillon for *Graft - Tales of an Actor*
(Komedia@Southside)**