

From **THE STAGE**

Rites of Privacy

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This one-man show touches upon the lives of five very different characters, all of whom have secrets to hide.

David Rhodes inhabits each of these characters thoroughly, examining the liberation given by revealing deep, dark secrets, whilst also detailing his own socio-psychological development in a disarming manner.

On the way, we meet the aging Georgian belle Clarinda Delaboise who, between sips of her cocktail, explains how she conspired to cover up the truth behind her husband's death.

There is the touching story of the only Jewish man in New Hampshire and his relationship with his brother. There is the ageing refugee rabbi from Nazi Germany and the Jewish Belgian hustler who searches for love but only becomes absorbed into the New York City club and drug scene.

Perhaps the most distressing tale is the suburban doctor who attempts to abort her own child to save her husband from knowing about an illicit sexual affair.

Rhodes portrays each character quite convincingly, including make-up and quick changes, proving himself a versatile, capable performer.

The setting, originally designed by Greg Emetaz, is an actor's dressing room, featuring a selection of ingeniously designed outfits, although the back projection, which aids the theatricality of the piece, suffers with an unsuitable, makeshift screen. The characters Rhodes has chosen represent a diverse cross-section of society, but the truth of the matter is that each is easily worthy of further examination.