

# Moist

**ALL DOLLED UP** These ladies dress for sketch-cess.



★★★★★  
**I.O. Del Close Theater**, through Aug 24 (see listings).

The Ragdolls, individually and collectively, have proven themselves a commanding presence in the improv community, and their first sketch endeavor, *Moist*, is no less impressive.

Not bad considering the mere utterance of *Moist* leaves us squirming and feeling the slightest bit raunchy.

The show itself follows suit, giving normally uncomfortable situations the royal comic treatment: having “the talk” with your mostly androgynous daughter, ignoring sauna etiquette, a self-proclaimed “blow-job junkie”

infiltrating a women’s power rally. Rather than trying to distinguish itself from other sketch-troupe shows with outrageous, one-dimensional scenes enacted by equally outlandish characters, *Moist* digs deep to ground even these cockamamy premises in some shred of reality (including sketches that shamelessly drop the euphemism “front butt”). These girls know what’s funny and how to gracefully walk the line between sharp writing and dull absurdity.

It’s clear from their performances that we’re dealing with master comedians. Emily Wilson brings a refined quirkiness to her roles that enhances her partners’ work without distracting from it. Meagan Flanigan is the “straight woman” with whom we all can empathize. Colleen Murray couples high energy and smart play. Megan Grano rounds things out as a jack-of-all-trades performer.

When all is said and done, *Moist*’s edginess and the onstage commitment of its actors are quite comically violating. Hopefully, it was good for you, too.—SH

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