

***A Brief History of Beer* Past Reviews**

★★★★★ CBC Manitoba 2016, Bradley Sawatzky

“Hopping around time in a Quantum Pint Machine allows us an education in the history of the golden nectar. Through sketch comedy, song, gags, *A Brief History of Beer* is on the most noble of missions: to save beer.

This show is also a drinking game. A bar is set up in the lobby and the audience is encouraged to bring in enough to last the entire duration. On cues, the audience drinks with the performers — creating a fun, communal vibe. As the sober reviewer I was very jealous. If you don't imbibe, you won't get the whole package.

Will and Trish, the performers and writers of the show, are charming, funny, and infinitely attractive as new drinking buddies.”

★★★★★ Broadway Baby Edinburgh 2013, James Macnamara

“We really don't know much about beer. For example: the difference between lager and ale? One is fizzy and one is flat, of course. One is cold and one is warm. One is for those in tracksuits, one is for those in tweed. Wrong, wrong, wrong.

William Glenn and Trish Parry have created a show that debunks myths like these and reveals how our consumption of beer is in fact intertwined with the progression of history. From ancient Iraq to a can in the park, beer has been our friend and foe in ways much more interesting than we realise.

A Brief History of Beer gives us this information through a series of quantum hops akin to those made by the Starship Enterprise, light-heartedly taking us back and forth through time in an attempt to find what the essence of ‘beer’ really is and why it means so much to us. The effects used to do this are well-prepared and often amusing; Glenn and Parry really care about beer and it shows in the way they have assembled this performance.”

★★★★ The Clothesline Adelaide, 2016, Matt Saunders

“Magical elixir, nectar of the gods, however you describe it, there’s nothing quite like beer, and if you love beer, chances are that you are going to love *A Brief History of Beer*, brought to you by the delightful Will and Trish, who have been playfully educating audiences around the world on the storied history of fermented barley and hops since 2013.

The title might call to mind images of a Hawking lecture with PowerPoint slides and interesting factoids delivered in computer-generated monotone, but quite to the contrary, this is a spirited comedy through and through, packed densely with laughs and goofy fun.

Will and Trish, self-declared caretakers of the beer continuum, will welcome you aboard their beer-powered time machine and whisk you away on a quick-witted and exuberant ride through the highs and lows of the varied and fascinating history of beer.

Reaching back 10,000 years to the genesis of fermentation and moving chronologically to the present day, the audience will learn the answers to questions like, “What is a hop?” “What does a broomstick over the door mean?” and “What was Prohibition about, anyway?”

The projection screen warns the audience at the outset that this is a drink-along show, and patrons may want to have an extra beer at the ready. As the journey continues, the audience gets to participate, powering the time machine by drinking beer and engaging in health and safety procedures that greatly enhance enjoyment of the performance.

Many elements of the show depend upon the chemistry between the leads and the audience, but Will and Trish skilfully drew the opening night crowd into their world. Before long, we found ourselves laughing, singing, and drinking our way through the performance. All in all, *A Brief History of Beer* is a celebration worthy of the beverage.”

Stagebuddy NYC, 2014

“As you can see, *A Brief History of Beer* happens to be very informative. Trish and Will tell us how beer was discovered, show us the way it is made, and tell us facts such as how historically most brewers were women (girl power!) and clergy (yay church!). It also apparently has a moral: Drink beer, but don't drink bad beer, e.g., Budweiser or any other globally owned beer company. This show is clearly motivated by the glut of beer conglomerates choking the beer superhighway...

...*A Brief History of Beer* is the ultimate tribute to Homer Simpson's favorite drink and anyone who appreciates beer would find it amusing. And if you don't like beer, like my theater companion, you can just drink sake.”

INDaily Adelaide, 2014

“Want to know the truth about brewers droop? Celebrate the ingenuity and influence of women? Discover the role of the clergy in the religion of drinking?

Then for the price of a couple of hand-crafted pints in a quality establishment, join theatre company Wish Experience on the time continuum of discovery as they track the trials and tribulations of the oft-maligned beer.

Creators, writers and producers Will Glenn and Trish Parry operate the Quantum Pint Machine (fresh from the UK festival circuit), and their passion for the amber fluid is clearly evident. Fringe show *A Brief History of Beer* is an opportunity to learn, to be amazed and to imbibe with them. Be warned, one drink may not be enough!”

Watermark Orlando, 2014, Samantha Rosenthal

“Step into the Black Venue, strap on your seatbelts and take a time machine (or how the show says, a Pint Machine) back in time to the glorious days of when it all began — when beer was first discovered. The show A Brief History of Beer is drink-along show by William Glenn and Trish Parry that takes you on a chronological journey from the humble beginnings of beer to its modern state.

The duo interacts with the crowd by drinking with them and even walking amongst the audience often throughout the show. They begin during the times of the Fertile Crescent and walk the audience through an informative and comedic recollection of how the beer industry grew, conglomerated and came to be. They make stops in their Quantum Pint Machine — which is powered by none other than beer — in Ancient Egypt, the Industrial Revolution, during the 1920s when there was the Prohibition and even during the groovy times of the 1970s. At each stop, the pair embodies and acts, with some props as assistance, as if they were people during those times. With the loud energy and charisma from the two, they really engaged the crowd throughout the show.

In the end, the pair informs the crowd that the “keys to our beer destiny” is in our own hands, and burst into a beer version of “This Land Is Your Land” that was catchy and had the whole crowd singing. I liked how this show reminded me how when I went to visit the Yuengling Brewery in Tampa (and a big thumbs up to Trish and Will for drinking them during the show; my personal favorite domestic). It was intriguing and informative... and about beer!

This show is definitely not one to miss — you’re encouraged to drink aplenty during it, and are kept entertained through the energy and acting of Glenn and Parry.”