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Edited by Dorothy Robinson, dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Thursday, November 8, 2007 Metro

14 lifestyle

Throw out the dating 'rules'

Life coach Martha Beck thinks it's time to rethink the dating game. On Oprah.com, she encourages anyone seeking a relationship to follow three steps: 1. Develop a strong sense of self. 2. Be pickier, less accepting and more committed to looking for people who are extraordinary. 3. Busy people really are more attractive, so fill your life with interesting activities. METRO



'Hey baby, what do you say we go behind that rock and get a little boulder?'

The best pick-up line, according to an online poll conducted by Remington. You think that's bad? You should have seen the other 630 submitted. METRO/DR

Dating

The games people play

CHRIS JORDAN
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PROFILE. It's nothing new to say that, when it comes to the art of dating, people love to play mind games. "I talk to my friends and they seem to be talking about the same guy, then out of nowhere, it's over, but it was never officially something," says Darnelle Edwin Radford, founder and producing artistic director of the Represented Theatre Company, about his friends' sex lives. "What they are doing doesn't really have a real title."

SO IT'S APT that Radford felt a connection to Garth Wingfield's play, "Dating Games," a work of five vignettes pertaining to modern dating, including a spoof on blind dating, a lesbian peek-a-boo, verbal jousting in a gay bar on

New production spoofs the twisted art of dating

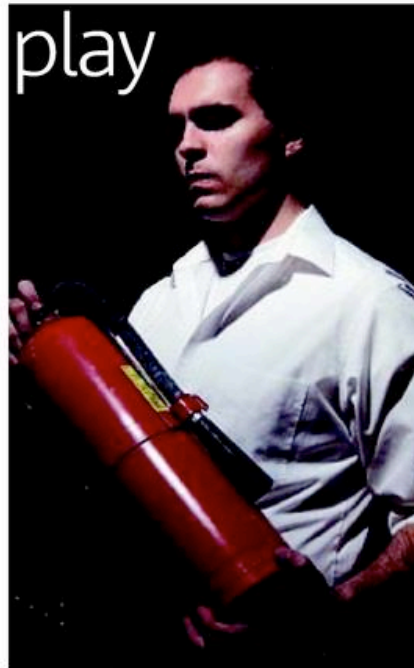
"Dating is so much fun here in Philadelphia. There are so many mind-blowing things to do here."
Radford

"Golden Girls" night, and two dog lovers who find they have more in common than their canine capers.

ONE REASON "Dating Games" appealed to Radford was that the contemporary relationships portrayed in the vignettes aren't well-defined. For instance, watch as the character Mary goes on an endless string of horrid blind dates in "Mary Just

Broke Up With This Guy." Or get a quick look at presumptuous pick-ups in "Daniel on a Thursday." As Radford observes about the art of modern dating, "A lot of people are in a no-strings-attached frame of mind and they're not interested in commitments. ... because they don't want to be tied down when some other opportunity [comes] by." But, horror stories notwithstanding, Radford still finds something admirable about dating. He is single and "exploring options."

'Dating Games'
Through Nov. 18
Shubin Theatre
407 Bainbridge St.
\$15-\$20, 215-965-8289
www.represented.org



Joseph Hannon looks for some body heat in "Dating Games."

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The worst of Craigslist

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About me: I'm 27, 5'4", 115 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, freckles and looking for love (and a way to keep my tattoo).
Thanks fellas,
Dynah



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