

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

My People's Market Coming



The June 3-5 weekend will bring the next My Peoples Market, an event that focuses on culture and community with a collection of ethnically diverse vendors, food and beverage providers, entertainment and more. Sponsored by Prosper Portland, the roving market will next take place at the Workshop Blocks, 1125 S.E. Water Ave. Mark your calendars and watch for updates at mypeoplesmarket.com.

Dealing with the Truth

OPINIONATED JUDGE

BY
DARLEEN
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Portland play holds mirror to racist impacts

Whatever is true is true; it doesn't stop being true if we ignore it, deny it, dress it up, rewrite it, appropriate it, or defend against it. Either we deal with the truth, or it deals with us. The family depicted in Brandon Jacobs-Jenkins' brilliant play, "Appropriate," is typical—its members, gathered to dispose of what remains of their material legacy, haven't cultivated the skills it would take to deal with that legacy. The play offers a window into the result: their relationships are fractured, they are angry and lost, and they are safe for nei-



PHOTO BY DAVID KINDER/COURTESY PROFILE THEATER

Linda Haden and Sara Fay Goldman star in "Appropriate," a Profile Theater production centering on a family in conflict and speaking truths to the impacts of America's history of chattel slavery and anti-black racism.

ther themselves nor anyone else.

That description could apply to a whole genre of plays—Tracy Letts' "August Osage County" comes to mind, or the far superior plays of Tennessee Williams and Eugene O'Neill. Like those works, this one is full of family conflict, and characters who are

broken and dishonest and not especially likeable, though fascinating to watch. But in contrast to Letts' play, this one has a lot to say. Sitting through the ugliness is less like ogling the scene of a

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