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A Review: Confessions of a Nightingale: Sid Shier as Tennessee Williams

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Written by Wilson Trivino
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Atlanta, Georgia- "Death ends a life, but not a relationship" is a line from the *Confessions of a Nightingale*, a one man play about the life and times of Tennessee Williams.

For one night, the magic of the 14th Street Playhosue rekindles this relationship. You are able to sit back and listen to Williams (Sid Shier) reflect, ponder, and share his thoughts on his life. Even though his words live on in his award winning plays, Williams, the man, is being forgotten from the Americans literary conscious.

In a one act production, the play is based on Charlotte Chandler's interviews with Tennessee Williams for her book *The Ultimate Seduction*. This play is Shier's attempt to capture the essence of this often misunderstood literary figure.

Confessions of a Nightingale housed at the 14th Street playhouse: a space that lends itself to an intimate setting, allows the audience to be taken into the study of the play write in the early 1980s. "Nightingale" is a character in Williams' play "Vieux Carré" and is deemed to be autobiographical.

Williams states that "he tells the truth and people are shocked" and that exactly what you get. No matter the highs and lows of success, he shares a raw account of his life.

"Writing is my life", reiterates Williams as he is able to transforms the boring experiences of everyday existence into the magic of the stage. He declares that theatre condenses the titillating parts. In his writing process the lines are brought to life when he says them out loud before capturing them on the page.

In the end you are reminded that there are "no guarantees in life" but for one night, you can turn back the clock and spend an enchanting evening with Tennessee Williams.

Confessions of a Nightingale is a fascinating peek into one writer's journey. As much as Williams detested critics, this one has nothing but praise for this exhausting performance. I give it a well deserve "bravo".

Confessions of a Nightingale: Sid Shier as Tennessee Williams running through April 24 at the 14th Playhouse. For show times and tickets visit: <http://www.14thstplayhouse.org/> or call (404)733-5000.

To keep up with Sid Shier visit: <http://www.sidshier.com>

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