

## THEATRE

# Enough

TRAVERSE THEATRE, EDINBURGH



Immaculately turned out in winning smiles, navy and nylon, cabin crew Jane and Toni dispense comforting reassurance and flirty glances to passengers at 30,000 feet. Down on the ground, though, they're juggling kids, kitchen colour schemes and semi-rapist boyfriends.

Stef Smith's quietly epic new two-hander at the Traverse might begin as a chucklesome comedy about staying calm, but ends as a guttural howl of fury and despair – at ancient grievances re-emerging, at a crisis in the

natural world, at the fact that there's still a battle for women that needs fighting. The darkly funny journey Smith takes to get between those two extremes, though, is funnelled into a taut, tight and thoroughly convincing dramatic structure.

Smith's two air hostesses function as effective metaphors for women's continuing obligations as wives, mothers – and, of course, ready lovers. But they're more than just ciphers. They're defined and rounded. Louise Ludgate and Amanda Wright are supple and detailed in the roles, alive to Smith's sometimes extreme humour, yet conveying their predicaments.

Kai Fischer's deceptively simple set and lighting –

especially a back wall of drapes that does something remarkable towards the end – capture a flawless world on the verge of collapse, and Bryony Shanahan's direction makes the most of Smith's poetic language. *Enough* balances the universal and the particular to compelling and unsettling effect.

**To 25 August (0131 228 1404)**

DAVID KETTLE

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## JOKE OF THE DAY

👁️👁️ I regret rubbing ketchup in my eyes, but that's Heinz sight 👁️👁️

**Nick Helm**

**Pleasance Dome, 5.40pm**