

Staggering Toward America

Californian **Rik Reppe** delivers an incredibly moving 90-minute monologue detailing his travels from a sleepy West Coast town to New York's ground zero two months after Sept 11, 2001. A standard structure ("Here are all the goofy and beautiful characters I met in my trip across America") becomes a deeply poignant and utterly graceful description of one man's journey from detached cynicism toward a heartfelt, meaningful patriotism. He relies a little heavily on expletives as adjectives, but most of his writing is gorgeous, and his stage presence is easy and inviting. (6 p.m. Fri., 4 p.m. Sat., noon Sun.; Bryant-Lake Bowl) **(J.M.)**

Published in Minneapolis Star-Tribune on Tuesday, August 5, 2003 by Jaime Meyer

Staggering Toward America: A Post 9-11 Journey

RIK REPPE

Watching L.A. playwright Rik Reppe tell his post-9/11 story onstage--a tale of quitting a corporate job, letting his red hair grow shaggy, and hitting the road in search of meaning--compels you to look inward and ask yourself some troubling questions. Like, "Did Jerry die all over again, man?" Actually, that's just the kind of snide cynicism that Reppe's heart-on-his-sleeve account of our national tragedy means to address. The show succeeds on the playwright's talent for capturing the small details of his cross-country quest. Reppe himself, we learn, has overcome a case of snide cynicism, and we can all relate to that. Fri 6:00 p.m.; Sat 4:00 p.m.; Sun 12:00 p.m. Bryant-Lake Bowl. **--Steve Marsh**

Published in City Pages on August 6, 2003