

Electric Link Journal

<http://www.eljnyc.com/E.L.J/Off%20Bway/Apple%20Table%20Penny.htm>

APPLE TABLE PENNY

By: PETER LEVINE

Director: JENNIFER TUTTLE

Starring: PETER LEVINE, ABRAHAM McNEIL ADAMS, JERRY FERRIS, LESLIE LYNN MEEKER, VIVIAN MEISNER, LAURA SAMETZ and PAULA SHTEIN

Lighting Design: BRIAN ALDOUS

Costume Design: JOEY KOVACH

Stage Manager: EMILY STINE

Press Representative: ANDREA ALTON

This gem of a play had me mesmerized from the opening to the very last moment. Kudos to playwright and actor Peter Levine for bringing his central character Max vividly to life in ways that are deeply relatable. The supporting cast, the set and the music were all perfectly aligned to keep the audience in laughter and tears. This man's 'decline' and the way his wife, adult children and granddaughter dealt with it could be happening in anyone's family. A beautiful and moving experience that completely rings true.

TADA THEATRE

15 W 28th Street (between Broadway & 5th Ave.), 2nd Floor, New York

October 3 - October 13

-Ronni Burns

EVA HEINEMANN REVIEWS APPLE, TABLE, PENNY

Written by Peter Levine

Director/ Sound Design by Jennifer Tuttle

Lighting Design by Brian Aldous,

Costume Design by Joey Kovach and

Stage Management by Emily Stine

CAST:

Abraham McNeil Adams: Sandy

Jerry Ferris: Tony Zarillo

Peter Levine: Max Gelman

Leslie Lynn Meeker: Edwina Marks

Vivian Meisner: Phyllis Gelman

Laura Sametz: Iris Gelman Gold

Paula Shtein: Sara Gold

Peter Levine's APPLE, TABLE, PENNY deals with a family coping with Alzheimer's. Phyllis (Vivian Meisner) is very upset with her husband Max (Peter Levine) of many years. He's been acting out of character and what happened at Bingo is the last straw. Their grown-up children, Iris (Laura Sametz) and Sandy (Abraham McNeil Adams) are very concerned. Right now Phyllis has moved in with Iris and Tony (Jerry Ferris) and Iris' daughter, Sara from a previous marriage. Sara (Paula Shtein) is very close with Max, her grandfather and hates Tony.

I found myself caring about these characters due to the very sensitive acting of the cast. Peter Levine the playwright plays Max who spends his time telling and writing jokes that only old Borscht Belt audiences (and me) would tolerate. His wife played by Vivian Meisner tolerates her husband of many years by going beyond the call of duty once she realizes his condition. Because Abraham McNeil Adams shows more concern for his parents, it affects his own family. Laura Sametz has to play a person who is torn between her parents and her second husband who was possibly caught by his stepdaughter of cheating. Paula Shtein is the most touching as she tries to get her Mom to see how awful her husband is and coping with trying to keep her grandfather from slipping away. Leslie Lynn Meeker as the psychiatrist tries to give some perspective to the tragic events surrounding the family.

For anyone who has been in this situation you will understand the real loss these characters are going through.

HAPPY FACE MINUS

<https://www.facebook.com/appletablepennyplay>