

## Reviews for Small Town Boys from the Vancouver Fringe 2018

"Sean Casey LeClaire knows the importance of detail... LeClaire's writing is often lyrical and he's a warm, engaging storyteller."

– Kathleen Oliver, *Georgia Straight*

"Ruthless self-scrutiny and compassion ... raw and non-pretentious ... terrific and wacky."

– Eric Abel, *The Real*

After a life changing moment of violence in their lives, *Small Town Boys* illuminates the different paths their lives take. The narrator, one of the boys, follows two older boys out west, and the journey unfolds in terrific and wacky ways. With ruthless self-scrutiny and compassion the story dives into the nature of deep friendship, forgiveness, and the fleeting and fragile moments that define our lives.

- Eric Abell, [THE REAL /DARRYL](#)

Montreal born and former Vancouver resident, Sean Casey LeClaire's [Small Town Boys](#) pulls you into a place so real and so painful you can easily imagine everything he describes – from the tavern they used to hang out to the dark corners and rooms that presented them with life challenges, up to a disturbing revelation that elicits emotions from sadness to anger, and helplessness.

"Fascinating (and sometimes violent) ... LeClaire is a master of Canadiana story-telling. His writing is poignant and thought-provoking."

– John Jane, *ReviewVancouver*

*Small Town Boys* shifted my negative judgments of violent men—and that's something."

- Sarvin Esmaeili, *Fresh Sheet*

"The show lives up to its billing. It left me, and others I spoke to with a sense of regret and loss for those sensitive souls that were entrapped in certain expectations of maleness."

- Evelyn McKelvie, *Theatre Addict*

*Small Town Boys*, while has heart and humour, is very deep and is heavy on the subject matter, though it does shed some light into how people from same backgrounds can and will go different paths of achievement or downfall.

LeClaire's style of storytelling is very raw and non-pretentious, which is why it holds the audience's attention and anticipation of what happens next...

Directed by Lisa Dalton, [catch Small Town Boys at the Vancouver Fringe Festival](#) – Waterfront Theatre 1412 Cartwright Street on Granville Island

### [R. Mark Desjardins](#)

I caught Sean Casey LeClaire's production of *Small Town Boys* during the Saturday, Sept. 16th performance. I didn't have any advance ideal of what I would see, and have to say that I witnessed was stunningly personal and riveting. Over the years, I have seen three other one person shows, and realize how hard such productions are to pull off successfully. His examination of male friendship in small town Quebec translated well universally, and if he takes his work on the road, I highly recommend taking it in. I had hoped that there would have been a question and answer period, but the set had to be struck for another play later that evening. I see he has written two books, from which he has based this work on. Check Sean out for sure!

"When LeClaire says, "No man is born violent", I can't agree with him more. And, in *Small Town Boys*, LeClaire looks for the roots of violence in the boys' histories, their parenting, and their society ... "With warnings for sexual content and a 14+ rating, this is Fringe fare of a different sort from the often comedic and fun shows many associate with the event. Not to say that *Small Town Boys* isn't funny; reviewers have said it is gut-wrenchingly hilarious in the way you laugh from both nervousness and humour."

STUART DERDEYN, VANCOUVER SUN SEPT 12, 2018