

# Adelaide Fringe review 2019: Final Placement

Richard Evans, The Advertiser

March 5, 2019 11:40am

## Final Placement

Theatre

Rating: \*\*\*\*

Mainstage, Bakehouse Theatre

Until March 9

Do not be out off by the play's premise, a down at heel young mother in America's dust bowl pleading for the return of her child taken away by welfare services. Nor the venue, the Bakehouse Theatre has a propensity for the worthy.

The irony is that the content of this one-act play — it's just 30 minutes — by acclaimed American author Ara Watson, is trumped by two quite splendid performances from Eva Frick, an Elder Conservatorium graduate and Payton Hogan (a Flinders Uni undergrad).

Slowly, but very noticeably, they fashion an edgy, spine tingling atmosphere of disdain, mistrust and hidden empathies.

Neither woman has a great life, the well-attired social worker (Frick) is as much a victim as the white trash woman seeking her help.

The sole criticism, the duration. Just as it really grips, we're done — a shame. That it felt so unfinished though is down to two compelling actors. Frick is a writer too apparently, well Eva, pen a follow-up now, you were both that good.

— Richard Evans