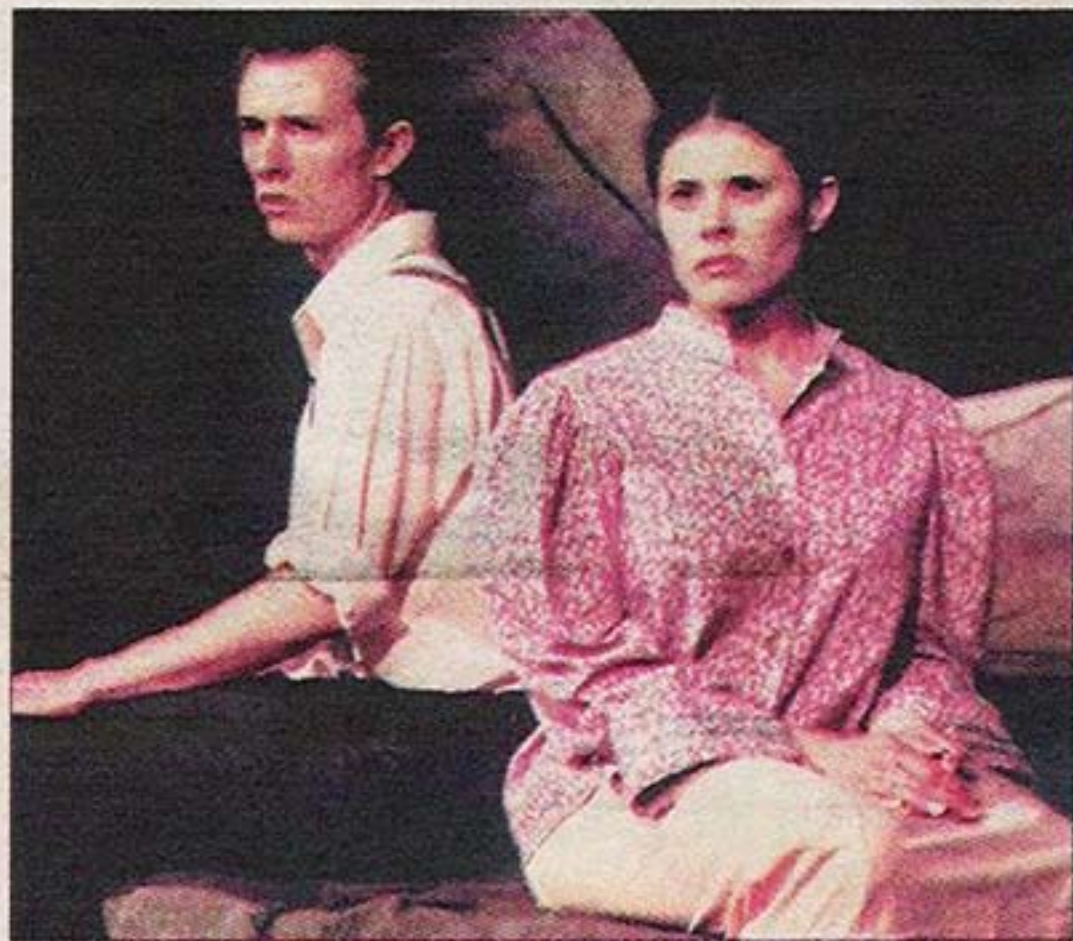


The Scotsman, Friday, 16 August 2002  
**FESTIVAL**



Daniel Arnold and Medina Hahn in *Tuesdays & Sundays*

### **Tuesdays & Sundays**

★★★★

**THEATRE:** Pleasance Dome  
 (venue 23)

*ANNE of Green Gables* springs to mind. We're in rural Canada in 1887 and William has just carved his sweetheart's name into a tree. But don't be fooled, this isn't the pretty bonnets and bows play it appears to be.

It sticks a skewer into nostalgia and the idyll of country life at the turn of the century. Mary is an earnest, slightly giggly 16. William, her gentleman caller, is a likeable young man with an uncertain quaver in his voice.

Inter-cutting monologues and dialogue race us through their sweaty-palmed courtship, from an initial meeting and tentative kiss at

a New Year's Eve social, to sex under a blanket in Mary's parlour while her pa and ma sleep upstairs. William has plans to go to music college. But Mary gets pregnant and the pair stumble into tragedy. The strength of this production lies in the way it captures both William and Mary's desperation, as well as the silent pressure exerted by their elders.

The piece, written and acted by Daniel Arnold and Medina Hahn, looks at the steel traps of respectability and convention. It bites into how it was, and in some places still is, impossible for young men and women to break free without getting hurt. Very good indeed.

*Maxie Szalwinska*