

11TH YEAR  
**Equal TIME**  
MINNESOTA'S NEWSPAPER FOR GAYS, LESBIANS AND BISEXUALS

June 18-July 2, 1993

## High profile Scully farther out than ever

- *Queer Thinking*  
by Patrick Scully
- Illusion Theater, Minneapolis
- Thursday through Saturday,  
June 24-26, 8 p.m.
- (612) 338-8371

By **WILLIAM RANDALL BEARD**  
*Contributing writer*

Patrick Scully is one of the foremost performance artists in the Twin Cities and is rapidly developing an international reputation. He is also one of the most aggressively queer artists around. For a man who would make a fashion statement at a Walker Art Center event by wearing his long hair atop his head and stuffed into a condom, that goes without saying.

### PERFORMANCE ART

All the more remarkable, then, that *Queer Thinking* is his most out there work to date.

Following a sold-out run as a part of Illusion Theater's "Fresh Ink" series, *Queer Thinking* is being revived for four performances at Illusion during Pride weekend. Reservations are suggested, since this run is very

likely to sell out as well.

Scully may have shaved his head, but his deep insight into the gay experience and his wicked sense of humor remain unchanged. In the three sections of the piece, Scully explores three essential facets of gay identity: gender, sexuality and politics.

The piece is very personal, yet goes beyond confessional navel-gazing. He transforms his material—his life—into something theatrical and universal. The simple informality of the staging makes the stories all the more affecting. He manages to be simultaneously funny, moving and inspirational.

This is in-your-face, confrontational theater. The fact that he spends a good deal of the performance naked isn't the half of it. He confronts the gay community as much as heterosexuals, exposing some of our own homophobia, erotophobia and shallowness.

Scully pulls no punches. He reveals some of his own shame and when describing incidents of homophobia, he names names. Scully is never abusive, but it is unlikely that there will be many audience members who will leave feeling unchallenged.

I cannot think of a show more appropriate for Pride than *Queer Thinking*. It instills in its audience pride in gay culture, even as it pushes us to confront some of our issues. But even more, we can take pride as a community that we have nurtured and supported artists the caliber of Patrick Scully.



Photo by BILL CARLSON

**OUT THERE:** Patrick Scully takes a candid look at being gay in *Queer Thinking*.