onstage

Fringe enters final lap

• **REVIEWS:** Classic horror movies meet musical theater in "Teen Misery," and other offerings of the ends-on-Sunday Fringe.

Teenage Misery: A Horror Musical

Stephen King and Stephen Sondheim allusions run fast and furious in this merry musical spoof of America's cultish obsession with shallow celebrity. Teen college student "Carrie" Ann Black (Kelly Houlehan), her best female friend and their gay twink sidekick abduct teen idol Shane West and commit illegal acts upon his person. As they blithely quip, sing and assault, the cosmos concocts a hilariously mystical retaliation. The vocally proficient cast's giddy but focused high energy aligns nicely with Keith Hovis' clever music and lyrics. Caution: All that fake blood is appropriately corny. (5:30 p.m. Sun., Theatre in the Round, 245 Cedar Av. S.)

JOHN TOWNSEND

A Woman's Work

Threads Dance Project, led by choreographer Karen L. Charles, shows three premieres in this celebration of the female perspective. The best is "Sacred Feminine," performed by Karen Gullickson and Kara Motta. It throws a harsh spotlight on rigid gender roles. "Limitless" is lightweight and lacks Charles' sense of social justice. "Bootyful" is a playful exploration of a body part burdened with symbolism — positive and negative. Charles and her dancers poke fun but also make a serious point. No woman is defined by just one aspect of her anatomy. (8:30 p.m. Sat., 1 p.m. Sun., Southern Theater, 1420 Washington Av. S.)

CAROLINE PALMER



"Teenage Misery: A Horror Musical"



"Dear Madde"



"Tizi Ouzou"

MINNESOTA FRINGE FESTIVAL

What: 896 performances of 176 shows over 11 days.

When: Weekdays beginning at 5:30 p.m. with last show at 10 p.m.; Sat.-Sun, beginning at 1 p.m. Ends Aug. 11.

Where: 16 venues near West Bank, Loring Park, downtown, Uptown.

Tickets: \$12 per show. Multishow passes available. Plus \$4 button. 1-866-811-4111. Web: startribune.com/ fringe and fringefestival.org



"A Woman's Work"