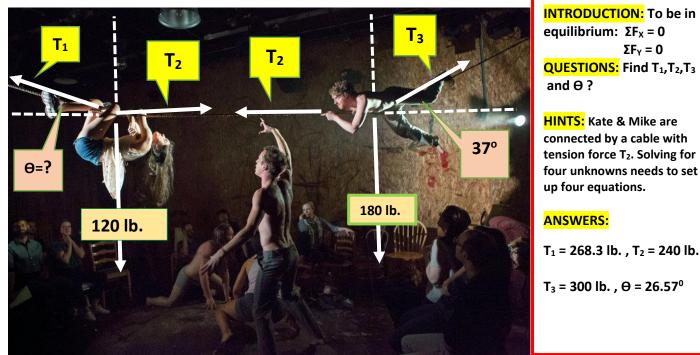
STATICS Physics Application from the Arts

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Review: 'Wolf in the River,' Adam Rapp's Latest Tale of the Dysfunctional and Dispossessed



From left, Kate Thulin, Jack Ellis and Mike Swift in the play "Wolf in the River." CreditHunter Canning A ripe mound of earth, festering with sickly flowers and garbage, rises from the upstairs stage of the <u>Flea</u> <u>Theater</u> these days. Audience members in the front row for "Wolf in the River" — which opened on Monday night in a highly intimate in-the-round production — could easily lean over and rub their faces in the muck, which may well be the symbolic intention of this play's creator, <u>Adam Rapp</u>.

But mostly, this squalid pile exists as a place for an enthusiastic tribe of young theater folk — members of the Bats, the Flea's resident acting company — to get dirty, histrionic and, on occasion, naked. It must be said that they seem to be having just as good a time doing so as Mr. Rapp apparently had writing and directing this tall and bloated tale of nasty doings on the banks of a cannibalistic river.