

CAPSULE REVIEW
Anthem Theatre Company presents
My Fascination with Creepy Ladies
October 17, 2019 - November 3, 2019



The cast of the Anthem Theatre Company production of *My Fascination with Creepy Ladies* at BCA Plaza Theatre in Boston, MA.
[Photo Courtesy of Anthem Theatre Company]

From the desk of: [Ed Siegel](#)

Most adaptations of [#EdgarAllanPoe](#) don't take the seminal American writer seriously. Think Roger Corman's daffy, if alluring, films with Vincent Price. Or Federico Fellini's alluring, if sardonic, "Toby Dammit," with Terence Stamp. But [Bryn Boice](#) is deadly serious, and we do mean deadly, in "My Fascination with Creepy Ladies," which investigates Poe's obsession with the deaths of beautiful women in stories like "Ligeia" and poems like "The Raven." The narration is shared by eight Poe/narrator stand-ins while four women in black (pictured) bring life (sorry) to the corpses.

Boice is an incredibly talented director as she proved with Caryl Churchill adaptations for [Commonwealth Shakespeare Company](#), which was a winner in last year's [Elliot Norton Awards](#). She brings the same "joy" of movement to Poe, though if you're not a fan of his macabre writings you might find your mind drifting from time to time. As a Poe devotee, I found it fully engaging once my long-standing resistance to multiple narrators passed. Lots of fine acting. It's by the [Anthem Theatre Company](#) at the [Boston Center for the Arts](#) through Nov. 3.

(Foreground, front to back: Siobhan Carroll, Luz Lopez, Elena Toppo. Background, front to back: C. Padraig Sullivan, Christine Power, Jessica Golden)

—Ed Siegel, Boston Theater Critics Association