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■ D3

THEATER REVIEW | WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE

Maybe brain surgeon could untangle jumbled one-act

By Michael Grossberg
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Anger, anxiety, fear, envy, lust, embarrassment, indifference and other disconnected emotions.

Seduction, deception, confrontation and other brief vignettes.

Card playing, beer drinking, fighting, singing and lovemaking in a meditation of mind over matter.

► *Who Do You Think You Are* will be presented at 8 tonight, 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday in the Wexner Center for the Arts performance space, 1871 N. High St. Tickets cost \$10 to \$24. Call 614-292-3535 or visit www.wexarts.org.

If you feel lost reading this far, then you know how it feels to watch the overlong first half of *Who Do You Think You Are*.

The SITI Company production, which opened Wednesday in the Wexner Center for the Arts performance space, tests patience with a collage of repetitive movements, words and encounters that seek to shed light on the implications of brain science for social interactions.

If you didn't know the subject in advance, though, you might not guess it until about 45 minutes into the 80-minute one-act. Only

then does the focus shift to an explicit theater essay that becomes more interesting and entertaining.

Under Anne Bogart's stylized direction, Akiko Aizawa, J. Ed Araiza, Will Bond, Leon Ingulsrud, Ellen Lauren and Barney O'Hanlon play emblematic roles with crisp and chameleonic precision.

Yet, aside from a few amusing moments of bad behavior, the many vignettes are chopped into such a word-and-movement salad

that no character or scene has much of a chance to develop.

To its credit, the adventurous troupe has taken to heart the positive significance of recent brain discoveries to promote personal transformation and social harmony.

But the SITI production achieves emotional illumination only as it nears its celebratory conclusion of cautious hope.

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