



By: Stephanie Simon Updated 5:30 AM 1/13/14

Ever take a taxi to the theater and wonder if it would have been quicker to jump on the subway? Well, with the new production "Take Me Home," there's only one way to go, and it's a guaranteed to be a wild ride. Stephanie Simon filed the following report.

I'm a riding in a cab through Lower Manhattan, but I'm not on my way to the theater. I'm already there.

"Take Me Home" is a 40-minute immersive theater experience in the backseat of a moving yellow cab.

"They're guided by a New York cabbie/actor Modesto "Flako" Jimenez , who takes them on a surreal journey. So there's things that take place inside and outside of the cab and it's a completely unique theatrical experience," said director Meghan Finn. Flako is a real livery cab driver and performance artist.

"So it's that challenge to make sure that I keep you entertained, don't crash the car. Make sure you enjoy the show," said Jimenez.

I brought a long friend and arts consultant Jana La Sort. We chatted with our driver about life, love and a new way to play an old fortune cookie game.

"You have a sincere desire to improve... in a cab," said La Sort.

"When you're riding in the cab and you see some of what they put on for us, you're struck by thinking, 'Oh I just thought that was a crazy New Yorker.' So you're not really sure what's theater and what's not, which is part of the excitement about it actually," said La Sort.

"Really the inspiration is having this kind of intimate experience with a cab driver that you don't usually get to have. You get to kind of break down that plastic partition between you and them," said playwright Alexandra Collier.

For the show, attendees get an e-mail that tells them a secret location to meet in. Perhaps the best part of the entire experience is knowing that yes in this cold weather you will be able to hail a cab, but can you afford the fare? Well, that's part of a surprise ending, which I won't give away. Tickets are only \$25.

Right now, there's a wait list but with so much interest more shows could be added soon.

Overall, it's a fun, but occasionally bumpy ride. Of course that what makes it so real.