



Peter PanHazlitt Theatre 6th March 2009

The last time I saw Peter Pan was at the Marlow in Canterbury with Toya Wilcox, Dave Willetts and Barbara Sturgeon of course that was a professional company and cast..Why did I say that? ...well because I rate Stage Theatre Society as professional as they can be.

This Peter Pan had good casting, good direction by **Richard Hillier** and good musical direction **Mathew Currie**, choreography **Rebecca Beaumont** carried off well by the young cast, at times too much on the floor. The Indian warpath hand movements were superb and they were all together. Great!!

Kieran Mellish played (Mr Darling/Hook) with his usual gusto, a nice comedy Hook. I wonder where this 15 year old goes next...glad you gave up football Kieran.

(Mrs Darling) **Chelsea Flain** for me was the “Darling” of the evening what a superb voice, this girl, in role of playing mother could have been difficult, but not for Chelsea. Well done! Her sons played by **Jacob Porter** (Michael) **Will Burren** (John) these too young lads were line perfect and delivered them with ease and the characterisation was near perfect, especially Jacob in his first role, keep it up Jacob. **Ellie Shields** as their sister took command of her role when playing mother to the lost boys.

(Peter Pan) **Claire Scholes** who I felt was over dressed,(not a fault of hers) this made her look clumsy and stiff at times, Claire sang well and was teamed well with **Faye Roberts** (Tinkerbell) who’s facial expressions were great in the comedy scene with Hook in act two. And Tink was not on the blink!!

“**Dark is a winters night**” the company were placed well on stage, and in full voice and it conjured up a wonderful setting, now that made the hairs stand up, on the back of my neck.

With such a big cast I found it difficult to single out the best, as you all worked well and there were good cameo roles from some company members, where were the boys? Always a lack of boys and this is shown by the amount of girls playing boys, but those that did, did this well.

Earlier I spoke of “Dark is a winters night” good scene but the Rostra was not high enough and the audience lost the dialogue from the rostra.

David Beaumont’s lighting plot was as always, was “spot” on.

This production of “Peter Pan The Musical” was a joy to watch and with the limited flying ability at the Hazlitt Theatre I thought that they coped well and didn’t leave Peter and Tinks hanging around to long. This due to a good stage crew lead by **Matthew Perkins**.

Thank you for inviting me once again “Stage Theatre Society” and once again good work carried out by juniors, that I feel sure that some, will go on to greater heights.

My gripe of the show...if one is reading a story from a book look as if you are reading it from the book, minor but crucial, use your props to the full.

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