StarbBach's: The Coffee Cantata

Naomi Forman Prods.—Exchange Church

Funny, smart, professional...and highly caffeinated.

Take an aging cougar and her latest obsession, add her trust fund controlling brother, mix with the nonstop rollicking music of J.S. Bach and bingo bango bongo…you'll want a refill. The language is now, the music is then, and the result is rich.

There was a full house at my performance, so get your tickets early and get in early to avoid the restricted view of the single pole. Besides that, Taylor, the latte boy, doles out dainties before the show so sit near the front or on the aisle.

Ron Robinson

The concept of this musical is to set modern lyrics to Bach's work in a Starbucks cafe. There is a plot, though that's not the point, the wonderful singing and dancing is.

All three characters are strong and very well cast, but it's soprano Naomi Forman who steals her own show. She is mesmerizing, beautiful and you need to hear this voice.

The Mennonites were out in full force at this sold out (Monday) show. You also get Timbits and there is coffee for sale. A perfect musical experience. (It ran 15 minutes less that stated).

Lisa Campbell

The Wild Things

Flying Fox and the Hunter Gatherers—Warehouse

Finally a real set, props, tons of action, and a huge stage full of actors and musicians! The Flying Fox and the Hunter Gatherers provided perfect new lyrics for the Maurice Sendak classic which kept true to the original story. The Warehouse pulsed and resonated to the wild pounding beat as the wild romps started and some of the audience were provided with instruments to join in with the orchestra. Max was superbly portrayed with the right defiant attitude hiding the little boy inside. This play is a must for anyone who has grown up with this wonderful story and would be perfect for the whole family except for the very young who might be scared by the booming noise and the creepy monsters (who are also fantastic dancers). My only complaint is it should have said "Max" on his ship. Wow!

Lisa Campbell

A Fish's Wish

No Flash Photography—Kids Venue SCD

I was invited by a friend to see this Kids Fringe play because her niece was involved in the writing and production. What a wonderful experience!

The actors (dressed all in black) took us down to the depths of the ocean to meet Dodger, the angelfish, and his best friend, Beau. In glowing colours (achieved through the use of black lighting) they took us with them on a visually stunning journey to find the wonderstar—a sea creature who could grant wishes!

Along the way we meet the ocean's 'bully' and 'dunce' who attempt to interfere with Dodger and Beau's quest, and they encounter a 'shady' crab who cleverly tries to take them down the wrong road.

This play is both beautiful to watch and to listen to. The singing and puppetry were outstanding! The sold-out audience (of mostly kids and their parents) were entranced for the entire time.

Emily Ternette

[title of show]

Pocket Frock Productions—MTYP

This is not a play for the kids. Some may consider this play insulting, because of the language and subject matter, but I found it extremely funny and well done. This cast of five has put together a play about putting together a play which in turn is about putting together a play, creating a wonderful but confusing concept.

The play itself is about two struggling playwrights, one a composer and one a writer, in New York City who write a play about writing a play about writing a play. Filled with comical songs such as "Untitled Opening Number" and "Awkward Photo Shoot", this play begs for bigger houses than when I was there, so that everyone can love it, and enjoy it.

Arden Pruden

SEEKING...

Heat & Hot Water Prods.—MTC Up the Alley

My wife and I thought this would be typical dating fodder. I was taken aback by the great performances of the three talented actors in this funny and touching piece.

This show is about the modern dating world—finding love on line, through the want ads, Craig's list, etc. These fine actors have a great script to work with.

Using just 3 chairs, they create a myriad of interesting and distinct characters in a variety of funny and desperate situations.

So if you are seeking, seek no more, and go see this.

Kevin Campbell

Falling People

ASHEK THEATRE—Playhouse Studio

This was a one-woman show, where the actress played 8 or 9 different characters; and was absolutely one that will stand out for me for a while.

Elly is a woman who owns a guest house with her husband. Emotionally distant throughout the play, she goes through the guest house meeting the other characters, including an about-to-be-wed couple, and a man who has lost his daughter.

This play is simply about Elly, struggling with what she knows about her ancestors, and about how the guest house came to be.

Arden Pruden

all the best!
to the fringe & the jenny

George Hickes
MLA for Point Douglas
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StarBach's: The Coffee Cantata

delightfully fun
deliciously
decadent
and suitable
for all ages!
Venue #20

A musical by
J.S. Bach