

Review

Cinderella

By Pete Grocock

Directed by Emma Ayling

Production: November 2010

What a night! The weather was atrocious – snow and ice – but in that old show business tradition, “the show must go on”. And what a show!

This production of Cinderella, written by Pete Grocock and directed by Emma Ayling, did not disappoint. From the moment the curtains opened, to the closing finale, what a treat!

The casting could not have been better. Chris Hoyle, as the Cook, made a great dame, and what a performance – it was excellent. He was so funny, and a good singer, too. The comedy was excellent – I couldn’t stop laughing, and the rest of the audience were in raptures, too.

Mercedes was played by Pete Grocock (you suit blonde, Pete), and Portia by Robert Butler (where did you get that hat?). What a great comedic pair – very entertaining and funny.

Trudy (Andrea Wells) and Tracy (Stella Wallace) – well done – a great comedy duo. The Fairy Godmother was well acted by Alice Rayner, a lovely singer.

I hardly recognised Andrea Varnavides as Lucretia – a great costume, and a well-acted villainess – she got lots of boos and hisses.

Cinderella was well played by Luka Phoenix, another lovely singer. And I loved the Liverpoolian accent of her alias, Roxanne.

Jordan Brumwell gave a good performance as Buttons, as did Irene McCartney (Baron Hardup), Rachel Cockburn (Prince Charming), Amy Fraser (Princess Miranda), and Kim Tomlin (Dandini). Mention should also be made of Nirvana Jalalvand Wray (Captain), Sophie Barklamb (Sergeant), and Lee Wallace (Black Shadow).

The Urchins and Fairies charmed and impressed, and Sarah Clarke and Una Robertson coaxed excellent musical performances from the whole cast.

Another brilliant RoCo production – everyone had worked so hard and put in a lot of time and effort, and against all the odds (appalling weather!) produced a truly entertaining pantomime well worthy in my opinion of being better than a professional production.



RoCo

Dramatic Society



Well done to all the backstage crew (too many to name, but you know who you are) so impressively led by Brian Marston, and to lighting and sound engineer John Burgess. Without you all, no productions would be as great as they are.

Everyone is to be commended on yet another successful RoCo production, and all the best is wished for a successful 2011.

Irene Sayer.