

Between flowery shirts and princess dresses :

The Shakespeare's play "As you like it" revisited by Christophe Rauck.



2 stars for me



Wednesday night, I went with my class to l'Onde theater to see for the first time the famous Shakespeare's play « As You Like it » or « Comme il vous plaira » in French. I knew that the play was talking about love and fraternal rivalry. I also knew that it was a revisiting of the play, and it was going to be really modern. But i have to say that i didn't expect that and I'm going to explain it as follows :

Summary of the play :

« As You Like it » is a pastoral comedy, initially written by William Shakespeare in 1599. This play became famous thanks to its monologues like the « All the World's a Stage » monologue.

The heroine of the play is named Rosalind, she is the daughter of the exiled Duke Senior and she suffers because of her uncle persecution. So she decides with her cousin Celia, the daughter of Duke Frederick, to flee in the forest of Arden. They're going to meet a lot of people in this forest and maybe Rosalind could meet love.



Negative points :

First of all you must know that i didn't like the play in general for many reasons. I didn't appreciate it because it was too long for a play. In my opinion, It was too slow and without any actions or any strong feelings. The end has been predictable since the beginning of the play.

The choices of the costumes were not logical, for example the Jester was wearing a modern outfit, with a flowery shirt and blue capri shorts. But conversely, the two cousins were

wearing some old princess' dresses. Throughout the show, the characters were singing music which were sounding like religious songs but at the end, they started to sing a disco song. It made no sense for me to mix different periods in the same show.

The text and the lines were too long and really difficult to understand for me, maybe they should have simplified the text. It was also really hard to identify the characters at the beginning. I also didn't understand why the comedians were using the microphones but only for a few replicas and after they continued their scenes but without their microphones.

Positive points :

Nevertheless, there were also some good things in this show, the acting was quite good and the songs were also great. The setting was simple but it always matched the story of the play.

Defining moments :

At the end, the characters started to sing but it was very surprising because the choice of the song was strange. The director, Christophe Rauck chose a disco song, maybe to surprise or mark us. The characters who were singing were also wearing gold and silver outfits with strass. It worked because the director succeeded in surprising me but it was still strange for me to mix all these different elements.

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