

Fiddler on the Roof

Director: David Youll

Choreographer: Elaine Johnson

M.D Joanna Morris

This is a thought provoking show with a strong storyline and one where all the cast need to know what their role is and how it fits into the plot. This cast certainly knew what this show was all about from the very first well performed opening number "Tradition", which was confidently sung and thoughtfully choreographed and gave us a real sense of "Jewishness" from the start, to the last very moving number "Anatevka"

All characters had been very well cast and had thought about their role and were strong and convincing. Sean Mulkerrin played Tevye as well as anyone I have seen. He sang with confidence and portrayed his torment of trying to keep the old Jewish traditions in a changing world, to perfection. Hannah Caygill was delightful in the part of Tzeitel, Ruth Emerson was a good support to Tevye and looked appropriately busy. Courtney Dempster and Lauren Osman played Hodel and Chava, their performances were very moving especially "Far From the Home I Love"

The singing and choreography were both of a high standard and were very well supported by the orchestra. The Direction was inspiring, with constant reminders of the fragility of keeping the old traditions. Even the games that the younger children were playing in the background were balancing activities. There was very little scenery; just enough to set the scene and this enabled the show to have pace. The passing of the Fiddle to a younger character at the end was a brilliant idea and ended the show off perfectly

Lynne Caygill