

Performance - I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

SINGular's production of the very successful off Broadway show, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* is a tremendous way to kick off the Fringe Festival. The Book and Lyrics, by Joe DiPietro, are incredibly funny, clever and poignant. From the opening generalisations about men and women to the final scenes of tenderness between elderly people without partners. The script and songs are reminiscent of the cleverness of R.D.Laing's *Knots* and in them you will find all you need to know about men being from Mars and women from Venus. Jonathon Mill's talented ensemble play a fascinating array of characters and sing in a variety of musical styles with energy and enthusiasm.

Musical director, Nerissa Pearce, one of Adelaide's leading piano accompanists, together with Imants Larsens on violin, creates one beautiful musical moment after the other. Adam Goodburn, who recently played the role of Gandhi so superbly in *Satyagraha*, is outstanding in all of his character roles. Equally, Johanna Allen is brilliant in her rendition of a bridesmaid in a *Country and Western*, *Always a Bridesmaid*, a desperate housewife in *Marriage Tango* and an elderly Jewish widow finding a new love interest at a funeral.

In *Tear Jerk*, Ben Rasheed is hysterical as the typical male at a chick flick, wishing he was watching an action movie until he becomes emotionally involved and more upset than his girlfriend and also as the husband and father who loves his car in *Highway of Love*. Deborah Caddy had a number of moving monologues, most memorably as Rita Ritz, the middle-aged divorced woman making a video tape for a dating agency. Lively and entertaining, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* is a great night out. SINGular Productions, The Opera Studio, State Opera, Netley. March 9 to 11. -- *Greg Elliott*

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