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Singin In The Rain Review

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It's always quite an event when a new musical comes to town, but none have made such a splash at The Civic Theatre as Singin' In The Rain did last night. Cheesy line I know, but it really did!

Based on the 1952 MGM movie, a wonderfully choreographed cast displayed poised precision in everything they did.

The musical tells the story of the silent movies transitioning into the talkies. It's everything you want Hollywood to be: movie stars, tantrums, deception, romance and excellent special effects.

The set is impressive and versatile, and easily transports us from the movie studio, to that famous drenched sidewalk. It's magical the whole way through. The great big show stopper numbers really take you back to that old Hollywood era. My highlights included 'All I Do', with its fab costumes and infectious energy.



'Beautiful Girl' featuring a chorus line perched on the wings of a plane, all Americanness oozes at every breath. The well known 'Good Morning' is performed with some pretty fancy footwork. But the show stopper to end all showstopper is 'Singin' In the Rain'. It really is spectacular, the wow factor doesn't quite cover it. Andrew Wright's choreography makes this an unforgettable performance.

So obviously, this means we need to talk water. There is a sizable amount, and if you're in the front few rows you'll be glad of the plastic poncho.

What is a musical about movies without, well, movies. Throughout the show we are treated to clips and screenings of the movies the characters are making. Lots of nods and winks to the golden days of cinema.

Bethany Dickson returns to The Civic following her fantastic Maria in the Sound Of Music. Her grace, charm and talent make Kathy Selden a joy to watch. Grant Almirall swept us all off our feet as the Movie star Don Lockwood, being every bit the impeccable leading man. Diva

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movie star Lina Lamont is played by Taryn-Lee Hudson, and her comedic performance delighted the audience. More grin inducing antics came from Steven Van Wyk as Cosmo Brown, Lockwoods sidekick.

Singin' In The Rain is a feel good, energy boosting, spring in your step type of show, with all the glitz and glam needed to make this a ticket you don't want to miss.

Singin' In The Rain is on at The Civic Theatre until 24 May.

Reviewed by Ingrid Grenar



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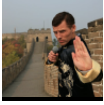
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