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My Fair Lady, California Musical Theatre (Music Circus)

Review: Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe must be rolling over in their graves. This is by far the worst production I have seen at Music Circus and the worst production of My Fair Lady I have ever seen. We left at intermission! Richard B. Watson (Higgins) was too young for the role. His posture, mannerisms and gestures were so over-exaggerated for a character who is supposed to be dignified and educated. Kate Baldwin (Eliza) had a horrific accent and was not elegant enough for the role of Eliza and made extremely poor choices as an actress. Eliza would never back-talk Higgins early on in the show. She played it too modern. Ron Wisniski as Pickering seemed so out of sorts with the role. Pickering is a retired military Colonel not a bungling old coot. Pickering should also be classy and distinguished but played him like Herman Munster. J.B. Adams' Doolittle was stiff and boring - not at all the over-the-top drunkard he should have been. Dan Callaway was an OK Freddy but not handsome enough and not nearly vocally strong enough for "On The Street Where You Live". Local actor Roger MacDonald as Zoltan Carpathy was outstanding (maybe he should have been Higgins!) as was the woman who played Mrs. Higgins. To me, the overall direction of the show was poor. The show was so over-the-top (except Doolittle) and cartoony, I felt at almost any moment the furniture was going to spring to life and join in singing and dancing. My Fair Lady is a classic in the purest sense of the word and should not be left in the hands of an amateur to toy around with it and ruin the show for the rest of us. Don't waste your money on this production.

Review: We totally enjoyed everything about it...the performers, the voices, the staging, the pace. Everyone around us enjoyed it, too. The standing ovation must have proved something!

Review: I thought it was a lovely production. Hats off to all involved.

Review: I loved the recent Sacramento Music Circus production of 'My Fair Lady'. It was presented as a fresh, new interpretation of an old

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classic and really hit the mark. Richard B. Watson as younger than usual Higgins portrayed the finicky, perfectionist with genius comedic timing. Kate Baldwin's face and voice were simply a pleasure to behold. Supporting cast and orchestra were spot on. I was particularly fond of the costuming effort. All in all a stellar production with an entertaining, lively slant on a old favorite. Would recommend highly.
- beeswax

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