

see a play.com

the league
OF SACRAMENTO THEATRES

[productions](#)

audience reviews

Cabaret, Magic Circle Theatre

Notes from the Director: I read how disappointed the reviewers were about the songs "Maybe This Time" and "Money" not being in the show. Please note that these songs were in the movie version and are not in the script. No song was deleted or cut down from the original score we were sent. I like these two songs, but it did not fit into the show as presented. Also it would have cost additional rental fees and royalty fees if they were to allow it. Sorry guys.
- R Gerould

Review: Not a well pulled off production of the show. Great singing from all females. Some of the actors were just not right.
- Susin

Review: Wow, for opening night I was totally blown away. The cast is so good and the Emcee is brilliant. Choreography was very fitting for the show. The set was not too elaborate. The transitions from Kit Kat club to the other scenes could have used better distinction, maybe lights or more decorations in the club but still effective. I really missed the following songs Money, Maybe this time, I dont care much and Mein Her!! I was so disappointed those songs were not in the show, bad choice especially considering what the audience is expecting, but beyond that it was very well put together. Kit Kat scenes made the whole show. Mary Young deserves a million standing ovations she was brilliant. The Emcee was so funny and then rather frightening at moments. I wish he was in it more...hint hint "money" and "I dont care much". Rosemarie is the best director at magic Circle because she takes a show and gets to the root of it and presents that to the audience. I wish it was a little darker though. You must see this show and sit up close like i did to become a part of this show.
- Elaine

Review: I had the privelege to attend magic circle's production of

[auditions](#)

[ticket services](#)

[in the spotlight](#)

[theatre dining guide](#)

[about the league](#)

[employment opportunities](#)

[learning opportunities](#)

[behind the scenes](#)

[volunteer opportunities](#)

[events](#)

**Sign up for email
to be notified about
auditions,
employment opportunities
new productions, audience reviews,
and classes and workshops!**

cabaret, I loved it. All involved in the show were great. The leads were wonderful but, I would like to point out that the chorus of this show also did astonishing work. It was refreshing to see.

Review: I think they definitely pulled the show off. Everybody in the production did a fantastic job! It was very entertaining. Hilarious sometimes and heart breaking at other moments. I would say that Cliff and Schultz were the weakest part of the show and they were still good.

Review: Not the best show I've seen. The leads weren't bad but not anything to write home about either. The man playing Ernst was by far the best part of the show. The direction (or lack there of) was not good. The music direction by Eric Bellah was as good as could be expected considering the lack of vocal talent. The orchestra sounded great (as always)! Overall a decent production but if you decide not to go, you won't miss much.

Review: I came to see this show on the second day of its run, and I'm pleased to report that I found it very enjoyable. Brad Bong did a very good job at the choreography, looking very suggestive indeed. The chorus sounded a bit off key at times, but overall they were very good considering this was only the second day for them. Although I would have preferred the Sally Bowles to sound more like Liza Minnelli, Lindsay Grimes did a lovely job with her portrayal. I often forgot I was sitting in the theater while watching her perform, and I think that comment speaks for itself. John Shaffer also did a good job as Ernst, making me feel uneasy throughout most of the play. The only thing I found truly disappointing about the particular production of "Cabaret" is that my favorite songs from the play were utterly excluded. I came eager to see their renditions of "Mein Herr" and "Money" (amongst others), but walked out without witnessing them. Whoever was in charge of abbreviating this production made a grave mistake I think to leave those out. On the other hand, the costumers did a beautiful job as usual. But I was sorry to see that the poster the theater produced to advertise the play didn't reflect any of that class. On a positive note, the overall cast did a very good job, but David Garrison practically stole the show as the Emcee. I laughed harder than I thought I would during "Two Ladies", yet felt chills during his more frightening scenes as a Nazi supporter. Sometimes I wish that some of the excluded songs could've been left in just so I could watch the Emcee again. I do intend to come and watch this play once again in a couple of weeks once the cast has had more time to get used to their work. However, that does not mean you shouldn't give it a try. I highly suggest that you come and watch

"Cabaret" at least once. Reserve your tickets today and bring your friends. Willkommen!

- Aja

Review: The lack of "Money and "Maybe this time" was an awful mistake. Money is usually the best part of Cabaret. I thought this show was very entertaining. These actors are not supposed to always be on pitch or great dancers. They are trying to reflect a cabaret in germany in 1929. So i believe that they are all doing an amazing job. David Garrison as the Emcee absolutely stole the entire show. He was so funny and then so so scary at other times. i got chills from him at the end of the show!!! The poster for the show is awful and does not reflect the show at all. PLEASE! See this show!!!!!!!!! you wont regret it.

Review: The show was pretty good. The vocals were a little rough at times, the choreography was creative and the direction was mediocre at best.

Review: Good production but lacked a few important songs. Really great group of leads. I will say that the musical direction in Dont tell mamma was not so good. A little distracting actually. Bob Gerould plays one character. The kit kat girls were all so amazing. The chorus was okay but the blonde girl in the phone song was so stand out. The Emcee stole the show. He tied everything together so perfectly. Great show!!! you will love it.

Review: although most of the time i can usually see a pretty good show out at magic circle, this one completely regret going to see this show. This is not the cabaret i paid to go see. Choreography was really not creative enough and felt amost scattered. whole show needed to be more dark. I dont even think any of the characters were very stand out. the numbers in the show are what makes most shows pop. this did not for me. mary young was amazing.

Review: I had mixed feelings with this show. there were parts i loved and parts I did not like very much. I loved sally and really liked ernst performance. Fraulein schnider was absolutely wonderful. i did not care for the emcee of the show. I found cliff to lack passion. I liked all of the kit kat girls performances. The Chorus was pretty strong and i had no issues with them. they were good. i missed my favorite song, Money. That dissapointed me. over all i think that it is a good show with a few missing pieces. (some important pieces though) i am picky though definately see it for yourself. there are some great performances.

Review: An amazing production. What I love about magic circle is that all involved in the show are truly remarkable. The leads were wonderful, the Kit Kats were Wonderful, and the chorus were wonderful. The Chorus, although small, should be praised in this show, they knew what they were doing. Mary young is a genius! John S. was spectacular! and Lindsey Grimes, wow! what a voice!!! Loved the kit Kat Girls! come and see it.

Review: I like the show itself, but this production didn't do that much for me. Its a hit or miss with some of the magic circle shows. Nice try though.

Review: I was lucky enough to be invited to the "preview night" and was completely blown away by the show. Even though the props and sets weren't all accounted for the show was still incredible. The choreography is amazing. Absolutely amazing! Even though you can tell some of the dancers aren't pros they still convey a sense of place and frivolity. Sally is amazing with just the right amount of depth. Frau Schnieder is heartbreaking. And the Emcee punctuated every scene and emotion perfectly. But my favorite scene was the Emcee's waltz with the gorilla. Hilarious and poignant at the same time. Great job!

- M

Review: I had the opportunity to see this show opening night, and then took a friend from Roseville who had not seen a Magic Circle production before. First off, if you're not familiar with Magic Circle, they operate two venues. Roseville Theatre is a standard proscenium theatre and the Tower (home to Cabaret) offers a more intimate 280 seat theatre-in-the-round. The Tower provides staging challenges, but the sound system is top notch and with sections only 5 rows deep, there isn't a bad seat in the house. I can honestly say I haven't seen an even mediocre production staged in the Tower, and part of that owes itself to the intimacy of the theatre. Director Rosemary Gerould's direction keeps the show moving and she manages to get some memorable delivery and movement from the (mostly) young performers. The character of Sally Bowles is a strong singer and carries her numbers extremely well. Frau Schnider is a joy whether singing or acting. She's seasoned and it shows. The emcee brings just enough edginess to the role, although I must say on the second viewing of the show, I found some of his off-hand remarks to other cast members a bit distracting; those made to the audience, however, had me and several in my back row seats roaring with laughter. Some Magic Circle productions suffer from what can only be termed "rushed music", this is not the case with Cabaret and Mistic

Director Eric Bellah and his band of musicians deserve notice for that. It's a good night of entertainment, and I plan to take holiday visiting relatives to see it this weekend. Life is a Cabaret!

Review: I been a season ticket holder of Magic Circle for fifteen years. I truly am proud of the cast and production crew of Cabaret. Lindsay Grimes and Taylor Sutherland was perfect choice as Sally Bowles and Clifford Bradshaw. The shining star was David Garrison as the Emcee. His body expression and his makeup was a success. The audience laughed and taped thier feet in response to David's performce. The Kit Kat Girls were a knockout in both loOoks and dance and songs. Bob Gerould and Mary Young were my choice for the perfect couple. I would recommend if you enjoy theater, this is the Cabaret to see. It is a must for a good day at the theater.

- Tony

Review: I guess it was ok, but the choreography was not very good, the dancers selling it was the only thing that saved it. The show could have been more pulled together.

Review: The show for me was just alright. The chorus brought this show down. As well as some of Mr. Brad Bongs cheorography which lacked interested in several spots. The Emcee was very funny, but not the best singer. The girl who played Sally Bowles was amazing and should be nomiated for an elly award. They all tried hard, but could pass on seeing this show again.

- Terry

Review: The choreography fits the time period of a 1930's German cabaret, not a Broadway show. The Emcees voice is a character voice, his true tone and range is much different in normal voice. I would agree that the chorus is the weakest part of the show. The goal of this show is to show you how the Nazi power affected the lives of the people in the show, and I believe they have achieved their goal. This is an incredibly enjoyable show. Go in with an open mind and appreciation. Great show! Hard working cast!

Review: I saw this show last night, and I have to say that I was very disappointed. The choreography was awkward and lacked energy, the direction was dull and lacking, and I found the entire production fairly bland. The brightest point was easily Lindsay Grimes, as Sally Bowles. Although inconsistent at times, she seemed to have a good grasp on her character and has a beautiful voice to match. I was incredibly

disappointed with David Garrison's portrayal of The Emcee. His performance was based primarily off cheap jokes and awkward improvisations with the audience, leaving his character very shallow. His character had no substance to it at all, it was mainly just show and to get laughs. Overall, a lot was left to be desired, which was a pity.

Review: I saw the show last night with my husband and I am not a theatre person. The show was very entertaining. I enjoyed all of it. The choreography was mediocre and a bit on the sexier side. I did not appreciate that. Some of the smaller roles seemed to be behind their Broadway costars. Good production but lacked.

- Gail

Review: A great production of Cabaret at M Circle. Everything down from the choreography, the costumes, and the singing was superb and highly professional. This is a must see production.

- Ben Yu

Review: I thought the show was just okay. The leads were very good, the Emcee and Sally were perfect, but the chorus was awful. There were a lot of very nice moments in the show but I thought the music was very poorly done. The vocals were not together, the orchestra was awful, the only thing that saved the music was that it was played at a really fast tempo and was over soon! This really took away from what might have been a decent show. I thought the choreography was good but too difficult for the dancers in the show. Not a great show, but had a few great performers!!

Review: I personally loved the show. While some of the great nuances in the show's subtext were lost, the cast was great. The girls were my personal favorite. The Kit Kat Club is a dingy cabaret, and Brad Bong's work really reflects their utter mediocrity. He did an amazing job portraying their shortcomings and the girls do an outstanding job of selling themselves as well as their characters. I wanted to see Sally be a bit more mediocre in her Mama performance in contrast to cabaret.

- Christie M.

Review: It was ok, just ok. I didn't think it was great, I definitely couldn't give it a standing ovation. The staging left a lot to be desired, and I would have liked more delineation between the Kit Kat Club and other scenes. Perhaps then I would have enjoyed the Kit Kat Club numbers a little more. As it was, they were in my face in the front row and that just was not appealing. Sorry.

Review: I saw the production on the second weekend and I was left almost completely unfulfilled. The show was amateur at best. I really like the show Cabaret and I thought it was too ambitious of a show for Magic Circle to do. Sally was fine but her accent faded in and out and I think she made some strange choices with her character. Cliff was stale and did absolutely nothing to liven up his character. The orchestra was a mess. Bob Gerould went for cheap laughs as he is often prone to doing and missed the finer points of his character. The Kit Kat girls seethed mediocrity (although I blame bad directing). The choreography was awkward. And the Emcee did not understand his character at ALL. I have seen the actor in a few productions at Magic Circle and he is always the same. Ad-libbing out of character and completely pulling focus. He detracted from the show more than anyone else onstage. Needless to say, I won't be back to the Magic Circle theater until some drastic changes are made.

- Sharon Q.

Review: This was my tenth visit to the Magic Circle, but I must say the first time I have seen a musical staged in the Tower Theatre (I have seen plays here before). The theatre in the round does provide some staging challenges, but overall I believe the director accommodated the entire audience. Sally Bowles character is a marvelous singer, and the Kit Kat girls bring the right amount of tackiness (this IS supposed to be a 3rd-rate Berlin cabaret after all) and detachment to their roles. My only criticism is with the Emcee, David Garson(?). He's a familiar face on the Magic Circle stage, but he needs to develop a character and stay in it, which is not what he does here (or in other productions) His ad libs and mocking comments to the real audience were distracting in this production and are too bush league for Magic Circle, which is proving on most occasions a community theatre of pretty good renown.

- Ben L.

Review: The show was an extreme disappointment for me and my family. Being a descendent from Germany, I completely felt that the actors (the Emcee, Cliff, and sometimes Sally) were in and out of their accents. There were too many inconsistencies in their acting. I didn't care to see the untalented familiar faces that constantly reappear on Magic Circle's stages. The orchestration was off in left field playing the music- they were not on the same note. The dancing was out of line, and had no ties to the 1930's. It was poorly executed and did not represent the show well. The Kit Kat girls need to take ballet classes. Their presence brought the show down.

- Rachel

[show me more information about this show](#)

[get tickets for this show](#)

[I've seen this and would like to review it](#)

[close this window](#)

[productions](#) | [auditions](#) | [ticket services](#) | [in the spotlight](#) | [theatre dining guide](#) | [about the league](#)
[employment opportunities](#) | [learning opportunities](#) | [behind the scenes](#) | [volunteer opportunities](#) | [events](#)

© 2007 the league of sacramento theatres | webmaster@seeaplay.com

web site designed and developed by Blossom Web