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audience reviews

The Dinner, Kookaburra Productions

Review: lol I caught the show on opening night, and I couldn't stop laughing! The play brought out so many memories for me, and I could relate to the troubles Chris and Amy were going through as a couple. I've been there! From the dumb blond of Lauren, the smooth disc jockey Monica, and the insecure diva of Amy the characters were colorful and funny. Todd and Kevin were hysterical! I don't want to spoil the end of the first act, but it was hilarious! This is definitely a must see and I look forward to more from this group! I don't know what a Kookaburra is, but it's one funny bird!

Review: When I first sat down I was impressed with the set design and lighting. I knew I was going to be treated to a wonderful show - and I was not disappointed. Soon after the show started, the main characters developed the plot quickly, effective, and with great humor. The show continued with a very realistic scenario - social gatherings with loved ones while trying to spare the feelings of others (we can all associate with this!). While the conclusion of the play was a little predictable or expected, it was done with sincerity. If you're looking for a light-hearted show to brighten your week, treat yourself and your loved one to this play.

Review What a funny show! I highly recommend it. Good plot that anyone can relate to, interesting politics without it beating you over the head, and most of all, it's hilarious!!! The whole audience was often caught up in side splitting laughter.

Review: This show was hilarious!! All of the actors put on a superb performance and the storyline was really funny!! I think I will be going back for seconds.

Review: This show made me laugh out loud. Not only does the subject matter have topical poignancy, but the actors really made the characters come to life. I think everyone who supports marriage equality (and who likes to laugh) should see this show.

Review: This play was hilarious!! I would highly recommend seeing. The girl who played Lauren stole the show. Sandy Richard did a great job writing and directing.

Review: The Dinner was an excellent 2 hour trip looking through the window of 3 gay/lesbian relationships. I was truly entertained throughout the evening. The Jones had perfect chemistry on stage while the Smiths proved that even with ups and down that spark can be rekindled. The explosion of laughter Lauren brought with her to the stage with her Carol Burnett facial expressions and well timed remarks (which were beyond Awesome) to the very high on life DJ; The Dinner was a perfect way to spend a Friday evening with a date and/or friends. Congratulations to the cast and crew of The Dinner

Review: A wonderful, light-hearted evening of theatre for anybody in or out of a relationship. The set design for the small space was absolutely awesome!!!! The actress playing Lauren was a scream, and the script evoked laughter throughout the night.

Review: This was the best gay/lesbian show I've seen in a long time. Todd and Lauren were hysterical and Amy is hot in her leather. The evening went by too fast I was laughing so much. A must see.

Review: I really enjoyed myself. The play is quite funny and has a nice pace going for it. Even the 'awkward' moments are well done to create a sense of funny awkwardness on stage without the audience feeling bored. As for the acting. Overall, ranges from good to great. The Todd character is the glue of the cast and is just a delight to watch. Todd's partner is never great in any moment, and is sometimes a bit too over the top in his acting, but he still puts in a good show that works well. Plus, he and Todd are a cute couple to watch. The 'fighting' broken up couple do a very good job of reflecting their tensions, even as it goes into extremes. The last two characters are a mixed bag for me, however. I really enjoyed the 'hip' dj character, as she just seemed completely in the zone for the role. The dj could easily come off as unbelievable in the wrong hands, so thankfully, that part was cast well. The other side of the coin is the 'ditsy' character who, from the moment she opened her mouth, annoyed me to no end. And every little facial spasm and every condescending word she said, especially to her 'supposed' date, there was nothing remotely likeable about this character... and yet people were amused by her antics, even her exit which... never... seemed... to end. She had some excuse for coming back and doing one more thing before leaving the stage. JUST GET OFF THE STAGE! She reminded me of 'I love Lucy' a little... and I HATE Lucy. At least she's not as bad in the second act. In spite of this, I still enjoyed the play tremendously and would recommend it to my friends. It's a feel good play in a time that needs to feel good, especially with the depression going on. This is escapism as it was meant to be, pure fun.

Review: We loved this show! Great Laughs! Great Romance! Great Songs!

Review: I enjoyed this show tremendously not only for its talent but it's content. I think the play was extremely well written and it is one those that the whole world should be made to see. I believe that it might improve things more than just a little. Mr. Oneil's and Mr. Spierto's performances were heart warming and you truly got the sense of a long term relationship. Unfortunately because of their size and beautiful booming voices they are a bit overwhelming in such a little space. This has nothing to do with them or their talent! Their performances truly touched my heart and I could not wait until they both came back on stage.

Ms Bond, an apparent new comer to the area should bottle up her energy and sell it!! She was consistent throughout the whole show and her energy level never dropped. As Mr. Spierto and O'neil she was always

engaged with the other characters. I feel that the director should have pulled her back just a little and have her build more slowly into her zaneyness as such a character can sometimes be waring. This has nothing to do with the actor its the director responsibility. They pull the strings. This was my feeling with the "DJ" as well. She showed no layers she was constantly doing the "steriotype" antics of an LA DJ on crack which was funny at first but got old. Again, this is no reflection on talent as her part as well took a tremendous amount of energy. But this is not Broadway, or Hollywood its community theater in Sacramento. The director's talent in writing this show was expert and her presentation of it entertaining and telling, her casting well done and her characters well portrayed. We must remember that when judging and commenting that these people do this voluntarily and put their heart and souls into it. Though we have a right to state our opinions negative or positive personal attacks are not necessary. Opinions can be given with tact. I thank all of those involved for this production, an enjoyable evening and for the directors courage to put it out there.

Review: A sweet, if at times overacted, story about couples who need to be reminded about how and why they fell in love. And that sounds like most couples, doesn't it?

Review: I really enjoyed this production, and recommend that you go see the final performances this weekend. Kevin and Todd were hilarious and belivable as a long lived couple with the all good natured banter and bickering that happens in any real relationship. The director who filled in for the roll of Chris (on the night I attended) was uptight, nervous, and a little superior which was a wonderfully mismatched foil for the blind date Lauren who was so kooky, random and bubbly. (I have a friend just like her, is scary) Their lack of chemistry and dislike and first sight was a riot to watch. Then enters the love-lorn and scorned ex Amy (The actress gave a powerful performance that was bitter, and and tragic, and utterly moving) Dragging along the new girlfirend spacy, music obsessed, DJ Monica who is (of course) immideatly drawn to Lauren. Lauren & Todds amazing comic timing gave the entire show the feeling of watching a favorite sitcom on television. The show was well directed, and the set simple, and well done. The show had moments of high comedy, screaming tears, love, lunacy, serious thought, nostalgia and flying food. The Dinner was wonderful, and to top everything off, part of the proceeds go to Marrige Equality USA. What could be better? How about Dessert?

Review: I had a great time and some much needed laughter at this show! I rarely see stories about everyday working folks in loving, long-term, same-sex relationships, so this was very refreshing - especially since the comedy was written in very well. I could really relate to the normalcy of the older characters, when so many other gay-themed dramas seem to be about extravagant, out of the ordinary, exciting, overly-sexualized, youthful, cliché characters. The Todd and Lauren characters kept me laughing throughout the whole thing. I think that the Lauren character especially kept me immersed in the theatrical world with her continuous and genuine reactions to everything that was going on - like she was really engaged with people at a dinner party, not on a stage turning it on only for a line and then off again. She was fun to watch... but the other characters were very fun as well. It's silly, fun, serious, and touching. The perfect play benefitting the perfect marriage equality cause. This is the last weekend coming up.. go see it! Don't you want to laugh and have fun?!

Review: I had such a fun evening thanks to the cast and crew of "The Dinner" last week. More than a

"queer issues" play, or a romantic comedy, this story transcends genres, dealing with important issues while still having a light heart. Relationships are something that we can all relate too, and most of the characters are individuals that I could empathize with. Still, I had my favorites! The hosting couple are a grounded pair with tangible history. Lauren made me laugh till I cried. There were surprises, fun and food for thought - how rare!

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