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## audience reviews

### *Dancing at Lughnasa, Big Idea Theatre*

**Review:** Beautiful. A good story well told. It's ultimately a sad story about the changes that were taking place in Ireland in 1936 and how those changes affected a family of women struggling to get by without men even as the (late) arrival of the industrial revolution and the return of their revered older brother contribute to the loss of their already meager income. But it's really about dancing and how people need to dance whether it's in the kitchen to music from an unreliable radio, in the lane with an unreliable man, at the harvest festival (Lughnasa) celebration or at a leper colony in Uganda. All the characters are thoroughly portrayed in all their conflicts and complexities by an outstanding cast.

**Review:** I am constantly amazed at the wonderful performances at BIT, and Dancing at Lughnasa carries on a tradition of highly professional performances that we are lucky to witness. The cast are all without exception, mesmerizing in their portrayal of family life in 1930's Ireland. Funny and sad in equal parts, this window into their emotions and relationships is pure entertainment. Actors of this caliber are a treasure we need to support in Sacramento.

**Review:** Wonderful script. Perfect casting. Intelligent direction. Highly recommend it.

**Review:** I was very moved, and taken away into that home with all the warmth and the fun among the sisters. I loved ALL the characters, and felt like I was right there with them (and you just about are, in the small theatre). I was touched with nostalgia, and found myself in tears at the end...simply because it sent me into nostalgic thoughts and feelings, and of course the themes of dancing were exquisite. Highly recommend. Wonderful acting as well. I was very impressed.

**Review:** A complex, beautiful show about five sisters struggling to keep their family together during an Irish summer, 1936. Their radio works only fitfully, and so their occasions to dance are limited, alas. A very strong cast brings Brian Friel's Tony-award winning play to vivid life. Highly recommended.

**Review:** We totally enjoyed. Everyone in the play was excellent. Michael was especially good - Maggie was great -- But in truth they were all wonderful.

**Review:** Great production, really enjoyed it. This was my first time at this theater and I would definitely go back for a future show.

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