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audience reviews

Ruddigore (or The Witch's Curse), Light Opera Theatre of Sacramento

Review: I had the pleasure of enjoying Light Opera Theatre of Sacramento's production of Ruddigore (or The Witch's Curse) on opening night, Thursday, June 4, 2009. If you want the full synopsis of the story, read the entry elsewhere on this site; I will not go into those details here. The production itself is well balanced, the performers' voices perfectly pitched and complementary, and the orchestra is, of course, superb! Staging is pleasing, and acting neither over-melodramatic nor subdued...just right! Ooh, the ghosts are WONDERFUL and the setting PERFECT! As for individual performances, I am a huge fan of Dame Hannah's voice (definitely worth the price of admission), and Sir Roderic is portrayed by my favorite LOTS actor of all time...and although he stumbles on occasion (literally, on Thursday), Mike Baad (Despard) consistently portrays the most pompous British subjects this side of the pond! Sean Bianco (Mr. Opera in Sacramento) is once again, Maestro ...Bravissimo! LOTS, please print up more programs. You're going to need them. Ruddigore is a rarely staged G & S operatic gem, and should be seen NOW, while there is still a chance! Curious, though, how the French seem to get the last word. Beware the bat...

- Troy

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