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EARLY REVIEWS FOR THEATRE ERINDALE'S STAGE DOOR

Ontario Arts Review



"STAGE DOOR is a certifiable blockbuster.... [Director] *Heinar Piller* again is the recipient of kudos from this scribe. ...

Pianist Olga (Ali Richardson) ... in but two words ... conveys whole paragraphs. ... The heroine's dad, played by Ben Hayward,... communicates all those emotions a father feels on such occasions ... succinct yet poignant. The focal character is Terry Randall and *Hannah Drew* bestows such integrity into her portrayal that she comes across as more than just credible, she's familiar. The frivolous tap dancing and physical dexterity exhibited by *Carolyn Nettleton* add some visual humor ... *Sarah Robbins*' classically beautiful face is also a study in dramatic mobility ... *Karyn Mcgibbon & Emily Johnston* also contribute moments of tension relief. The two major male contributors are *Jake Maric & Fraser Woodside*, whose characters are diametric opposites. Both young men give full measure ... There are NO small roles. Stage Door gives testimony to that truism.

The stage-set designed by Patrick Young ... Sarah Jane Burton's choreography and the incredible costuming by Joanne Massingham all contribute to an effect that is worthy of anything produced by mainstream Toronto. This is one meticulous and demanding effort that succeeds in all aspects. STAGE DOOR is at Erindale until the 18th, but please use the box office entrance!"



"Simultaneously funny, touching, and hopeful ... a strong finish to a great season from Theatre Erindale.

Stage Door ... still feels relevant ... the humour and charm of the play is surprisingly modern.... A great job of capturing the time period through set design, costumes, and hairstyles. Lighting is also used effectively....

Even the minor characters are distinct and entertaining..... Hailey Gillis brings an understated maturity to her role as Kaye, a woman with a mysterious past.... Hannah Drew also effectively conveys Terry's hunger for the stage, and her friendship with Kaye is one of the most engaging parts of the story. ... Judith is a character with a big heart and a razor-sharp sense of humour, and [Lindsey] Middleton balances both. ... Jake Maric, who plays David Kingsley,... makes the transitions feel seamless and believable.... Fraser Woodside's playwright character, Keith, can be genuinely charming or completely insufferable ...

The Footlights Club feels like the bustling metropolitan respite it's supposed to be.... Genuine electricity ... A lively, often funny production ... "

ONLY FIVE PERFORMANCES LEFT! MUST CLOSE SUNDAY MARCH 18TH! BOX OFFICE 905-569-4369 OR <u>WWW.THEATREERINDALE.COM</u>