

latest reviews

Crystal clear brilliance

production The Room



company Theatr Iolo

venue Llanover Hall Arts Centre

date March 11, 2002

An hour of crystal clear brilliance. The dialogue and the performers sparkled and made us all carry a warm smile on our faces throughout the show and for a good while afterwards.

Kevin Lewis, long serving Artistic Director of Theatr Iolo continues to explore the creation of intelligent and appropriate plays to entertain and inform his young audiences.

He and writer Paul Conway spent a long time researching this production and it has paid off handsomely. The play has a serious core, child bereavement and family separation but there is not a heavy moment in the whole play.

I would guess that not only does it have its young audience chortling almost throughout but also it certainly sets out and succeeds with the lightest touch, to give assurance and guidance to children who may be caught up in these awful family problems.

At the same time it will make other children aware of these situations. Mandy and Greg are two tenish year old children both played with bright and very con! vincing relish by Gwenfair Vaughan Jones and Emyr John.

Their success in making us believe that they are young children is remarkable. Equally delightful, Stephan Hickman's Stan Laurel is a superb evocation of the great screen actor from the old black and white film days, a complete command of the walk, the smile and the scratching of his head. He also demonstrates a very subtle touch in the way he relates to the other two players.

As a team they are great together and stretch out their arms to give us a warm welcome into the world of their play. A play for children maybe, but equally engaging with tonight's 'grown up' audience.

A quality achievement by all concerned

reviewer Michael Kelligan [[click for brief details on this reviewer](#)]