

CTC present 'CATS' – *The Apex, Bury St Edmunds*

Director Bridie Rowe

Musical Director Jade Tournay-Godfrey

Senior Choreographer Becki Carey

Assistant Choreographer Amber Claydon

Junior Choreographer Rosie Fuller

Whenever you receive an invitation to see a CTC you smile because, based on past performance, you are in for a treat. This production easily maintained the high quality set by the production team and captivated us watching public. If anyone did not enjoy this production I would say that they did not understand the intricacies of the plot or appreciate the complexity of performing such a piece as this.

From the opening bars of the prologue as we are introduced to the cats that have come to attend the Jellicle Ball, it is then that you realise how much work has gone into developing each character and attention to detail that must be maintained for the entire show (many of the characters rarely leave the stage) We were treated to some very accomplished acting and the standard did not falter.

As we met each of the cats, it is always a pleasure if you can hear the stories that they are relaying to us and the principal singing made this easy, however, I was even more impressed with the superbly balanced choral singing. The ensemble numbers were a joy to listen to. A lot of hard work had been done to achieve this I am sure.

Whilst we are talking about hard work, the choreography was set to make you believe that cats do dance like this. The clever little nuances, the comic touches that help to set this apart from an ordinary production were all there. The cast danced these complicated routines with ease and were beautifully synchronised.

It would be wrong to separate this into individual performances, this was most definitely a team effort, the comfort and ease of the interplay that the cast show make it all the more believable. It is also nice to see the kittens playing their part in making this show a success, the future of the society looks to be in good hands.

Cats has one section in it that has always been a stand out moment with a stand out song, Memory, and we were treated to an excellent rendition, Maia Elsey and Eliza Walker gave us that “shivers down the spine” feeling as they got every ounce of emotion out of this great song.

All of the production team must be thrilled with the outcome of their hard work and when it is combined with this talented cast I am sure that anything is within your grasp.

It only remains to say Happy New Year to you all. Congratulations Bridie, and once again thank you for a very entertaining evening and we look forward to seeing you at Annie!

Martyn Rolfe (on behalf of Zelda Rolfe – NODA Youth Advisor Eastern)