

Globe's 'Fiddler on the Roof' a must-see

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If you're interested in watching a man sing about being a rich man and shaking his shoulders, the Globe's Fiddler on the Roof is for you.

The play is more than just dance moves and woes: it is a story based on a Jewish man who lives strongly by his religious beliefs, but life has a way of testing him.

The play takes place in Imperial Russia in the early 1900s, and the family man, Tevye, has five daughters. The three eldest daughters have marriage on their mind, and how Tevye copes with each situation tests his religious strength.

When I say I know this play, I mean I know it: as an avid Stratford festivalgoer, Fiddler was my first ever play, and you don't forget your first plays.

As I sat in the John Elliott Theatre, the songs I heard so long ago came back to life on stage, and the Globe's rendition is a beautiful homage to the classic story.

Mark Llewellyn, who played Tevye, could not have captured the character's spirit any better. He was wholesome, trustwor-

thy and honest, and he garnered the audience's attention every time he was on the stage.

Michelle Gardner, who played Tevye's wife, Golde, portrayed the strong character beautifully.

She looked like she was comfortable and relaxed on stage, as she was effortlessly hitting those high notes.

Now, the daughters: Tzeitel, played by Katrina Gibson; Hodel, played by Holly Bell-Young; Chava, played by Julia Pulo; Shprintze, played by Annabella Pellizzari; and finally, Bielke, played by Angelica Pellizzari.

Each and every actress nailed their character's personality, each one different than the next. Hearing them sing in one of the first songs, Matchmaker, Matchmaker, promised a night filled with wonderful music, and it did not disappoint.

Tzeitel, Hodel and Chava had "guy troubles," and those suitors portrayed their characters just as well: Jordan May, who played Perchik: a scholar, and welcomed Hodel into his world; David Bernacki, who played Motel: a poor tailor who won the heart of Tzeitel and more importantly, Tevye; and Jonah

DeNardis, who played Fyedka; a Russian soldier who proved too much a test for Tevye.

Shout out to Lee-Ann Jones, who portrayed the definitely-not-complaining Yente; to William Reill, who played Lazar Wolf, the wealthy butcher; and Nanci McNeil-Llewellyn, who played a hilarious vision of Grandma Tzeitel.

Of course, the rest of the cast should be commended for their efforts in a beautiful performance.

At one point during the performance, the theatre is darkened, and the full cast swallows the room with dimly lit candles, creating an overwhelmingly emotional moment - it was beautifully done and should not be missed.

The play will be continuing Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at 8 p.m.; Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. Pick up your tickets because you don't want to miss this.

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COMMUNITY

Georgetown Choral Society hosts the Christmas concert this weekend

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The Georgetown Choral Society invites the community out to a Christmas concert this Saturday, Dec. 2.

The chorus will be performing Handel's Messiah. The piece was created by George

Frideric Handel, and was first performed for King George II.

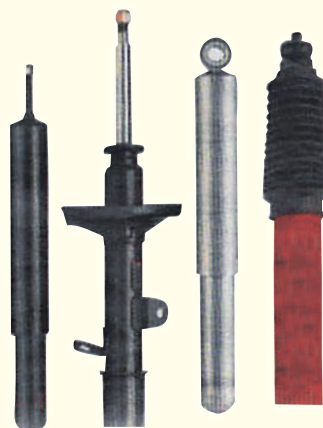
This music is best known and most frequently performed by choral works in Western music, and the performance in Georgetown features a full orchestra and soloists. For more information, visit georgetownchoral.ca/index.html.

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