

THE ROOM WHERE IT HAPPENED - Hamilton Review.

By Edie Tiley

Lin Manuel Miranda's original musical first hit Broadway back in 2015, taking the world by storm, winning countless awards including 11 Tony's and The Pulitzer Prize. And here it is, finally in England, in Bristol for eight weeks; from the 30th of April until the 22nd of June, and to not give away my opinion too quickly on it, I truly do recommend seeing it whilst you can.

With over 20,000 words spoken throughout the shows duration, it will enthrall and immerse you. Prepare to be utterly captivated by the sheer charisma and charm of the cast. The performances that are imbued with so much care and love for the characters. The vocal performances are frustratingly good and the dancing is so impressive that all I could do is be reminded of just how unathletic I am! In all honesty, I am even listening to the soundtrack as I write this. To preserve whatever journalistic integrity I may or may not have, I am going to be perfectly candid and admit I don't truly know how to write this without just sounding like I'm rambling about how good it is, but that's probably a testament to the show rather than my writing, probably!

Shaq Taylor's portrayal of our favourite founding father (Is that morally right? Having a favourite? Please do let me know) is compelling and entertaining. Even when Hamilton does end up doing some.. morally questionable things you can't help empathising and even rooting for him. Taylor's performance is witty and just all-round brilliant. And listen, I can't talk of the actors within the show without mentioning Billy Nevers' dual performance of both Lafayette and Thomas Jefferson, absolutely hilarious and charismatic in ways that I can only aspire to.

Fashion is always a favourite of mine during performances, and let me tell you, Hamilton does not disappoint. Costumes that are absolutely gorgeous, clearly inspired by late 18th century fashion with a refreshing modern twist on them. With the main characters, it's admirable how their personalities are shown and developed throughout with their costume, even down to the colours they wear. Yet, I can't sing praise for the costumes without mentioning the hair and make-up, subtlety absolutely dominates it within the show and paying attention to such details is a treat.

Ultimately, I am confident with my five star review of the show. An unmissable watch that will stick with you for days after. Though, I do need to thank the staff that both arranged and came with us to the show, you've quite possibly made a musical theatre fan out of me – a shameful admission I know. I highly recommend seeing the show while you still can as it only has a little more than a month left in Bristol before it moves onto the next leg of the show in Birmingham.