

Legally Blonde

Exeter Musical Society

Exeter Northcott Theatre

6<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Director Lyn Burgoyne assisted by Mai-Lin Hagiwara

Musical Director Simon Carter

Choreographer Mai-Lin Hagiwara

What a treat awaited the audience with this production of Legally Blonde, with Exeter Musical Society. The bar has been set high over recent years and this production sure reached it again.

From beginning to end this show required energy, vibrancy, pace and vitality; it hit all four head on!

Samantha Morris as Margot, Kezia Greehlalgh as Serena and Ally Francis as Pilar gave everything to their roles ,expression ,dance and a lot else besides . Leading the “Greek Chorus” they really came into their own.

Sophie Greig as Elle Woods gave the role the light and shade required for this dizzy blonde with hidden depths and with a super singing voice, though at first, the voice mike did seem a little odd placed on her forehead however it did not detract from this talented actress. Her so called boyfriend Warner Huntington played by Daniel Mcloughlin was convincing as the smarmy “want to do well” kind of guy .Catherine Partridge as Vivienne Kensington paired off with Warner Huntington certainly suited their names, as the ruthless and ambitious social climbers.

Samuel Neal as Emmett Forrest had a great singing voice and gave his all to the role. A truly great performance, Emma Williams as Paulette Buonufonte, the bubbly and eccentric hairdresser was very entertaining and convincing. She obviously relished the role and did a stirring job of “Ireland”.

David Youll as Professor Callahan was very convincing in this role and whatever David does he does well. A great performance. Kelly McGovern as Enid Hoopes made a great feminist lesbian that was not over the top but pitched just right. Kathy Archer as Brooke Wyndham was also excellent.

As for the court scene, this was directed with great skill and Nicholas Parish as Niko Argitakos eying up the guard had me in stiches of laughter, together with Adrian Fox as Carlos, what can I say, but that they were very convincing and clearly enjoyed playing their roles!

I am aware there are others that I have not mentioned but to suffice to say everyone played there part in a show that was worthy of any professional production my congratulations go to the Director Lyn Burgoyne on a job well done, Simon Carter directed a great sound in the Orchestra as always and to Mai-Lin Hagiwara on magical Choreography

Exeter can be justly proud of this society A truly wonderful evening of entertainment together with superb costumes and scenery.

Graham Liverton NODA Rep.