

Northcott Theatre Exeter

11th April 2017

Director and Choreographer Sue Bonnett

Musical Director Ian Crew

The casting for this show was well done. A strong cast makes for a good show.

Olivia Crook shone as Millie Dillmount and danced and sang well. Her opening numbers "Not for the Life of Me" and "Thoroughly Modern Millie" were beautifully performed.

Jimmy Smith (Adrian Fox) came over very well as the suave city boy. I particularly liked his rendition of "What do I Need with Love". Miss Dorothy Brown as played by Nicola Wilkes had an exquisite singing voice that was so well matched to her role.

Josiah Carrier as Trevor Graydon III did well and what superb singing, especially with Dorothy in "Ah sweet mystery of life" & "Falling in love with someone" "this was a show stopper.

Mrs Meers (Sheena Galpin) got the role just right, it would be so easy to go over the top with this character, but subtly done with a super accent. Phil Ward as Ching-Ho and Bunn-Foo (Leigh Steedman) did a great job as the Chinese duo, even speaking in the required language (we had to trust that it was correct, but it sounded good) and just refraining from tipping over into panto.

Muzzy Van Hossmere (Tess Read) almost stole the show as the glamorous Nightclub singer and actress singing "Long as I'm here with you" & "Only in New York" just super!

Miss Flannery (Carrie Dyer) was so stern and such a no nonsense sort of character she made me feel I would never want to cross her!! She played the character so well and was great to watch.

The chorus did a great job as did the orchestra under the safe hands of Ian Crew's musical direction, a great sound. The set was well done together with lighting, however I thought the costumes, although colourful, were not up to the standard normally associated with EMS; some were ill fitting and not obviously 1920s with hardly a feather to be seen, but perhaps that's just me!

Congratulations to all. Good singing and good dancing, that is what Thoroughly Modern Millie is all about!

Graham Liverton Noda Rep District 5