

Fabulous Feedback for our Tempest

"I enjoyed it very much. I liked the elegant, spare, visual language of the piece - your set is natty and holds the world very well, which I was relieved by as I often find a solid structure in a small space prohibitive, but it wasn't at all - in fact the fluid revealing and setting up of different landscapes as we go through the story was rather magical. Like a dream. And your cast were impressive - clear, generous (to each other and to us) and playful. I was right at the front in an auditorium full of teenagers, and they were totally gripped - it's a feat to compel this audience in this way - 'specially with Shakespeare! But there's a really lovely tension in this piece between the realness of the relationships between the characters that we saw, and the magical realism of the world that you put them in, which perhaps in itself taps right into a teenager's heady experience of the world..."

Kate Yedigaroff - Bristol Old Vic

"All went really well in Colchester. Thanks so much for all your efforts. We loved the production and it gave us loads to talk about in terms of ideas about the play.

Thanks again to the company for being prepared to come over here. The Arts' Centre proved an excellent venue". **Alison Shelley Drama Dept**

"Rupert Bridgwater is mesmerised by the mood and tone of this stripped down version of the romance. Angry, aggressive and animalistic. Richard Nutter's Caliban, seized the attention of the audience with his knuckled hands, twisted body and taut tirades as he sprung like a dismembered sheep in his ripped white fleece from a trap door in the stage.

Using a soundscape by Jules Bushell of water in all its natural visitations to island earth and much coordinated physical movement, this is a mesmerising 90 minutes of theatre. Together with music, birdsong and the windswept isle, the affect was to fill the auditorium with a mystical and magical mood. It was enhanced by the precise and evocative lighting of Helen Morley which so neatly changed with the fleeting thoughts of the characters. A brave, creative version with high technical values."

Rupert Bridgwater The Drama Student Magazine

"That was one of the best adult shows I have seen in the studio." **Helen Donaldson Programmer Lighthouse**

"The production was full of extraordinary vision, aesthetically constructed with great sensitivity and beauty. The production values were exemplary and the performances finely drawn. It was a transcendent experience with a flavour of eastern dance theatre - particularly Buhtoh and Noh influences. However it was also an intelligent investigation of the human condition, touching on parental jealousy, the multiplicity of personality and the concept of a deterministic universe. I was profoundly moved by the production."

Sian Aita Forest Forge Theatre Company

I was asked about moment in the theatre when I was moved. I used the "hair standing up on the back of one's neck" moment when Miranda speaks directly to the audience

for "Brave new world". I think you should all be very proud of creating that moment.

Programme Manager Bridport Arts

Great show I loved it! Emma Acorn Theatre

Fantastic Evening Tracy Arc Theatre

"Visually Stunning Dreamlike Performance of The Tempest" – Will Wollen, Margate Theatre Royal

It's been on my mind to email and say wow ..But, we had tears in our eyes. I thought it such a beautiful and intelligent telling. Very best wishes – and thank you for such a fabulous evening of theatre. Incidentally, one Chinese boarder whose father has sent him here to become an engineer now wants to be an actor having seen the play.

Sian Evans
Ryde School
IOW

We really enjoyed the play & it provoked lots of really interesting discussion with my students. An interesting interpretation of the play too with so much emphasis on the father-daughter relationship. I think this might decide an area of the GCSE coursework for us so, thank you. Alex Kelly, Bruton School

I found the production - of a play I don't like much - hugely rewarding. It was fascinating to see the play stripped to a bare narrative, and the text mined with such attention to detail. Just wanted to say something about one of the final moments - rounded with a sleep - it's a speech I know so well, but it was new minted for me last night. Something that happened with the text and the light and Ralph's delivery at that instant spoke very movingly and eloquently about mortality. Looking forward to discussing it more with the students next week

Dr

Stevie

Simkin

We both loved all of it; set, music, sound effects and the acting. It was good to have an intelligent Miranda, a handsome Caliban and a complex Prospero. (Prospero was always Jeeves to me before.)

Ingrid (Stoke Abbott) /Bridport

We were bowled over by the production – my partner saw the Peter Brook Midsummer Night's Dream and we thought it was on a par with this, we are coming again from Torrington to Poole! Jeremy Taylor, Torrington

Loved the Tempest tonight - another magical, unforgettable Platform 4 production - the sound and imagery were as ever superb.

Many congratulations to you both and the rest of the team.

Jonathan, Chesil Theatre

Exquisite – Visually Beautiful with the concept of doubling of characters working excellently. Patrick Sandford