

'Seussical' rhymes and is fun of all kinds



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Review

Opening night of "Seussical, the Musical," an amalgamation of tales from Dr. Seuss that debuted on Broadway over 15 years ago, exploded as a kinesthetic romp last night at the Steel City Theater Company.

From the packed house of 72 people, kids of all ages leapt from their seats and danced. Oh my, how they were all so entranced!

The famous Cat in the Hat, played by Rachael Jaco, narrates throughout, and a penchant for trouble is seen all about.

The cast of 21 players have spent the last two months rehearsing the numerous dance numbers expertly choreographed by Jaco. The palpable energy creates a level of excitement in the tight confines of the theater, which adds to the level of intimacy that is not found with larger playhouses.

Director Andrea Garrett feels there are two main messages within this musical representation of Dr. Seuss' work, "Anything's possible and a person's a person no matter how small."

Twelve-year-old Nathan Martin portrays the mayor's son Jojo, and he superbly carries on his young shoulders a great portion of the show. Jason Laughrey once again lives up to his namesake and

provides animated hilarity with Gen. Genghis Kahn Schmidt's militaristic chant of "Green Eggs and Ham."

The outrageous costumes of flightless birds and acrobatic monkeys, illuminated by scintillating lighting, create a lasting and spectacular illusion.

For Horton, the protagonist of the night, Act 1 brings no closure for his dreary fright. Dominic Summers convincingly conveys the humane-hearted Horton determined to defend Whoville. Anxiously, he is portrayed with great skill, the cast of 21 actors bringing the Seuss to life with much thrill!

Act 2 introduces the song "How Lucky We Are" and a dance routine with a kick, with troubles relieved with a comedic trick.

And as Horton finally leaves his tree, remedied are the woes of the cast, audience and thee. So don't be a fool, take a trip to the Jungle of Nool. And realize just how lucky we are — to be dazzled by Dr. Seuss' magical star.

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