

Bristol Culture

A cultural meander through Bristol

Review: The Final Stage Part Two

11 06 2010

This mesmerising show was the culmination of the first two-year foundation degree course run jointly by Bristol's Circomedia and Bath Spa University. Half of the students performed at the Old Vic last week (review [here](#)), and this week is the turn of the other half, showcasing their prodigious skills and fascinating mix of skills at the home of Circomedia, St Paul's Church in Portland Square.

It feels unfair to pick out the highlights of a show which featured so much talent, but a few acts stood out.

As Alice Ellerby swung majestically back and forth to the beautiful sounds of Sigur Ros, there were audible gasps from the audience when she let go of the swing only to catch it a split-second later.

James Allen injected a real sense of fun into proceedings with his hat-juggling. With a larger and larger smile creeping onto his face as his confidence grew, he controlled the hats as if they were on pieces of string, sometimes while balancing on a ball.

Lydia Wildauer showed astonishing versatility. Her first act was flamenco dancing on the floor followed by on an aerial ladder. Her second act saw her dressed as a greasy Latino lover, somehow creating the scenario of romancing a trapeze. It was inspired stuff.

The show finished with Darryl Carrington and Gemma Michael's beautifully choreographed routine high above our heads. It was a fantastic end to a spectacular evening.

<http://bristolculture.wordpress.com/2010/06/11/review-the-final-stage-part-two/>