

Salisbury International Arts Festival Young Critics 2011

Circa

Reviewed by Megs Slark

Circa is an Australian circus group that's different to anything I've ever seen before. They take the boundaries of the human body and crush them in their bare hands. Mind blowing, confident and seemingly weightless, Circa left me begging for more.

As the performers started to fill the stage in the first ten minutes, I must say, I was regretting turning up to the event; the loud, heavy footsteps and simple, repetitive movement and music bored me so much I couldn't have borne to sit through an hour and a half of this first impression.

Thankfully, as time went on, the sketches got more and more technically beautiful. Bright, ever-changing lighting complimented each different style of acrobatics the performers had perfected. Music of different styles and countries worked wonderfully in sync with the movements of the performers, sometimes it even helped to explain the storyline of the sketches.

I preferred the sketches with props (such as a hoop, trapeze or rope) or the ones that two or more of the performers worked together to make something twice as extraordinary. Also, these sketches tended to have a storyline, as opposed to the solo performers that seemed to just be doing random acrobatics, with no journey of emotions or dare I say it: point. Of course, this doesn't apply to the hilariously brilliant mime artist who got the whole audience clicking and laughing at his witty jokes.

Overall, the night was easily worth the ticket price (£10) and I would love to go and see Circa again; I can't get enough!

If you want to be inspired, I recommend you catch them in their next performance. Don't let Circa fly back to Australia without having been captivated by one of their shows - you'll be missing out on one of the most astonishingly creative things you could ever witness.