

“The Curious Incident” at Capistrano Valley Deserves an A-Star
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“The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time” follows the story of Christopher Boone, a fifteen-year-old boy from England who endeavors to solve the mysterious murder of his neighbor’s dog, Wellington. As a result, the audience follows Christopher as he understands the world around him amid a family crisis.

Noah Reynen's riveting portrayal of Christopher’s detachedness and quiet observance are exemplified in his consistently guarded demeanor and gentle voice. In stark contrast, Reynen’s wounded cries and aggressive forearm scratching exemplify the habitual characteristics Christopher embodies while in negative mental spaces.

Lauren Swan (Judy) encapsulates the conflict and guilt of abandoning her son. Desperately attempting to console a panicked Christopher in public, Swan bursts into tears and paces about, believably emulating the difficult pressures of being a mother.

Ed (Domenic Puccio) demonstrates an extensive range of emotions through his leveled facials and physicality, as he struggles with lying to Christopher about Wellington’s murder and the abandonment of Christopher’s mother. The tension-filled arguments between Ed and Judy amplify the hardships that have strained their relationship, and in turn, allow the audience to empathize with Christopher, the center of this emotional turmoil.

The ensemble maintains a captivating synchronization as they bring Christopher’s physical and figurative surroundings to life, by embodying elements such as the furniture in his home or the spaceship in his imagination.

Lighting (Dylan Droege) personifies the intensity of Christopher’s emotions with its utilization of colors; such as flashing yellow strobes to indicate that Christopher is in a threatening space or calm blue lights to create a comforting aura.

Audio (Sam Self, Alyssa Gordon) elevates the immersive experience of seeing the world from Christopher’s perspective by distorting and overlapping certain voices that Christopher hears in his mind, to heighten the anxiety of the scene.

Costumes (Arbel Ben-Abraham) contribute further symbolic meaning to the story, by dressing certain characters in colors of significance to Christopher. Roger, dressed in a yellow and brown suit upon first appearance, immediately foreshadows the negative figure he will become to Christopher, while Siobhan, dressed in a relaxed purple sweater and blue skirt, affirms her to be a reassuring figure in Christopher’s life.

Hop on a spaceship of your design to see the incredible work of the cast and crew of Capistrano Valley’s “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time”!