

Ye Gads! Irvine's The Music Man is Note-Worthy!

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All aboard to River City, Iowa! "Trouble" has swiftly entered. When Harold Hill tries to swindle the townspeople into buying his marching band scheme, a stern librarian steals his heart. Before he knows it, he has transformed not only himself but the town's dull atmosphere for the better.

The lighthearted comedy follows the persuasive con man, Maddox Kreil as Harold Hill, speaks quickly with a smirk across his face effortlessly revealing his character's confidence and charisma. With voluble diction and zesty vocals, Kreil is a captivating presence onstage in "Ya Got Trouble" and contrastingly, in "Till There Was You" dynamically using a soft mellifluous voice. Genevieve Velarde shines as Marian Paroo; fluidly emoting between sadness, longing, and discontent in "Goodnight, My Someone" through her melodic vibrating belt as she sings to an unknown love. Velarde's chemistry with Kreil is apparent starting from scrunched body language and ending with open arms and an affectionate closeness.

Bright eyed and giggly, Kimberly Lau embodies Zaneeta by flouncing on her tippy toes and twirling her hair. Lau pairs her playfulness with Tommy (Gavin Uhl) during major dance sequences; they mimic each others zany-like movements and radiate carefree energy. The ensemble of the Pick-a-little Ladies create a loud and joyous atmosphere during "76 Trombones" and "Shipooopi", as well as showcase their gossipy bird like characteristics by sticking their heads out and eavesdropping on conversations.

The stage managers, lead by Iris Nguyen, struck the right chord and executed the production smoothly. Nguyen excellently called over 250 cues for both sound, lighting, and running crew scene transitions in a timely manner.

Donald Osborn's lighting heightens tenderness and excitement through intricate lighting methods. When Harold and Marian share a kiss in "Till There Was You", they illuminate the stage in a ring of fuchsia and violet and a rippling river stream gobo that crafts a dreamlike romance fantasy. The swaying of lights on the train in "Rock Island" synchronize with the choreography imitating a moving train.

Set Design (Danika Outericky) exhibits their impressive craftsmanship by designing sun-themed stencils for the Paroo house wallpaper and hand-painting brick flooring tiles, and a grey cobble footbridge. The close attention to scenic details exudes the 1900's period, allowing the actors a versatile and open playing space.

Irvine's fine tuned rendition of "The Music Man" reminds us of the power of redemption within everyone!