

Orange Lutheran's "Alice in Wonderland" is madly wonderful! 1/14/22

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With a twist on the traditional tale, Orange Lutheran takes the stage in Lewis Carroll's classic "Alice in Wonderland". The story follows Alice through a rabbit hole to Wonderland where she meets mysterious creatures and endures the madness of a world of nonsense. With a surprise ending, Orange Lutheran provides a sinister final reveal that everything is not as it seems.

Leading lady Kayleigh Gilbert charmingly captures the innocence and curiosity of Alice. With pleasantly poised vocal deliveries and courteous physical mannerisms, Gilbert flawlessly portrays Alice's youth. As the story progresses, Gilbert also foreshadows the twist ending as her entire body intensely shakes in her abrupt shifts back to reality.

Connor George provides boisterous, electric comedy in his bold portrayal of the Mad Hatter. With exaggerated bouncing movements across the stage and elaborate vocal fluctuations, George adds to the insanity. Through George's enthusiastic chemistry with the March Hare (Remington Walker) and the Doormouse (Daphne Stif) in dramatic physical exchanges, the chaos of the tea party is brought to life.

Liam Somerville and Blake Alandar humorously command the stage as Tweedledee and Tweedledum. The two energetically dance and terrifically execute coordinated comical gestures as they sing the poem, "The Walrus and the Carpenter". With their immaculate timing and over the top physicality, it is clear that the two make an excellent comedic duo.

Strong physical comedy is brought to the stage by Harrison Gomes as the White Knight. Through his discombobulated falls and dramatic rolls across the stage, Gomes marvelously conveys the irony of a blundering knight.

An exceptional comedic bright spot of the show is provided by Liam Somerville as the Frog Footman. Somerville hilariously portrays the obscure footman with animated, distinctive vocalization perfectly suited for a frog.

The larger-than-life personas of the characters are made possible by the Makeup Design team (Amaury Sanders and Jamison Early). Because of their thorough sketch plans to develop the colorful and detailed makeup looks, abstract characters like the Mad Hatter and Humpty Dumpty vibrantly stand out on stage.

With the cast's extravagant portrayals of the peculiar characters and captivating commitment to the twisted concept, Orange Lutheran creates a remarkable and especially unique rendition of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland".

