Aidan Chin

Please write after watching UMass Theater's "The Hatmaker's Wife" in its entirety.

What parts of the production of "The Hatmakers's Wife" speak most powerfully to you and why?  Answer with specific reference to acting performances and/or design elements in the production, in approximately 300-400 words.

The production of “The Hatmakers Wife” moved me, more than I even expected. The play was a creative piece, with unexpected twists and a comedic but still emotional story. I’m not one to cry but it did move me to tears. The point in the play that impacted me the most was more near the end, when the Hatmaker came to realize his true love for his wife, and it was revealed that golem was not a finding golem but one of death. After this when the wife is ready to leave with the golem, Hetchman tells her to wait, and he makes her a hat. I thought that was a very touching end and showed how even though the hatmaker rarely shows and doesn’t even know the depth of his own love, he still cares. The stage creation was also very impressive, when the wall came to life, I had never expected her to burst through the wallpaper and come to life or the whole wall coming down at one point. When the golem came out of the ground right next to me, pushing the person sitting in the chair to get up and move it out of the way was very exciting and immersed me in the atmosphere. I believe the small theater really made the play more personal and made me feel like I was there, part of the play, often I was just inches away from the actors and I thought that was really cool. Another element that really added a nice touch to the play was the live violin player. Every little piece was added together seamlessly to make a production that honestly blew away my expectations. I left that room wanting to see more plays for next year. Overall, I can easily say that this was the best story I have watched this year and I am excited to see the next one.