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NAME OF EVENT: Godspell

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This is my first time having an opportunity to attend a theatre performance. The event I attend is “Godspell”. I was really excited to see the performance as we took a trip down to Fisher Theatre before to the performance to see how the stage is built and the reason behind the build. This is event is mainly about using a wide variety of storytelling techniques and a hefty dose of comic timing, a diverse group of citizens performing parables from the Book of Matthew inspiring and entertaining songs ranging from pop to vaudeville. Dissolving hauntingly into the Last Supper and the Crucifixion. Godspell also spreads messages of empathy, compassion, and love.

I was actually really surprised by the structure of the performance as this is not like the typical theatre performance that I expected. It is more of an interactive type of performance, and we were told that it’s fine to laugh out loud during the performance. By doing so, I felt more comfortable during the performance and I don’t have to be very cautious in disturbing people around me. Another surprise is that one of the actors actually sat down beside me before the performance, and I got so shocked when she started singing with other actors. I also think that the raw setup they have on the stage gave me a really strange but good feeling for the show, as they are not hiding any imperfection of the stage floor. Typically, they will only show the perfect and clean side of the stage.

The lighting of the show also being done perfectly as it does a good job in drawing the audience’s attention to some particular place so that we as an audience will not get lost during the performance. They also change the color of the light to show the emotion of the actor like red for anger and purplish for sad moments. I am really amazed by the work of art of the director because they managed to slot so many different scenes in 2 hours and making the transitions seamless. The seating in Fisher Theatre is raked seating, which it is slanted to increase visibility. Even though I sat on the seat located near the exit, I was still able to enjoy the show well and the sound system in the theatre is good too. So, no matter where you choose to sit at the theatre, you will still able to enjoy the show.

Another thing that caught my attention is how well they incorporate singing and some essence of the gospel during the show. I have never seen anyone able to tell some of the parables by singing. Also, they were able to show us what the parable means by letting some of the actors’ act as the characters in the parable, I was initially wasn’t really sure what parable means. But after the show, I felt like knew more about it already. I am impressed by the casts as all of them were able to sing in different pitch whenever and wherever they want and making it sound so harmony. Compared to my first reaction paper where I attended the musical recital at Music Hall, I felt like this show is way better than the music recital. The actors also show that they have their “chemistry” between one and other because they were able to make the performance flow smoothly even though they may be some glitches. As this is an interactive performance, we will usually expect an audience that does not want to go on the stage. But they got it covered really nicely as they were able to react spontaneously without making the audience feeling awkward.

My overall reaction to the performance is that it is totally different from what I have imagined. They still can express the emotion from the lines so well as it was real. Everything in this theatre looks very professional, even when they make mistakes, they just go on without influence the other actor. I would say this is one of the best performances I have ever seen, and I actually feel sad that they have the show for two hours only.

In conclusion, for my first experience to watch a theatre event, I really enjoyed it and look forward to attending one again in the near future. Basically, everything passes the “acid test” by Peter Brook. It has been a good experience as I learned more about theatre performance by attending this event.

