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Ressort: Kunst, Kultur und Musik

"Brigitte Bordeaux" by Sergej Göbner

Freie Bühne Wieden Theater, 08.05.2024 [ENA]

In a charming and picturesque village setting, the theatrical production "Brigitte Bordeaux" being performed at the theatre Freie Bühne Wieden unfolds with a delightful blend of comedy, emotion, and thought-provoking themes. Written by Sergej Göbner, this play presents a story that challenges societal norms and celebrates the importance of acceptance and understanding.

The plot revolves around Herbert Steinriegel, a happily married winemaker and father of two sons, who reveals to his wife, Moni, his desire to live as a woman named Brigitte. This unexpected announcement sends ripples through the family dynamics, leaving Moni, son Sebastian, and daughter-in-law Maike grappling with a mix of emotions ranging from confusion to acceptance. As Brigitte's decision becomes the talk of the town, especially when she decides to run for Wine Princess, the play delves into deeper family histories and explores the impact of societal perceptions and expectations.

Sergej Göbner's script brilliantly weaves together humor, empathy, and poignant moments, presenting a narrative that is both entertaining and thought-provoking. The playwright's exploration of themes such as tolerance, acceptance, and the recognition of diversity resonates deeply with contemporary societal discussions.

The Austrian premiere of "Brigitte Bordeaux" is brought to life by a talented cast, led by Alfons Noventa as Herbert/Brigitte, Sabine Muhar as Moni, Sandra Högl as Maike, and Wilhelm Prainsack as Sebastian. Each actor embodies their character with authenticity, navigating the emotional complexities of their roles with finesse.

Director Nici Neiss and the creative team have crafted a visually captivating production that complements the narrative beautifully. The set design effectively captures the essence of a rustic winemaker's abode, while Christian Höller's accordion melodies add a charming musical layer to the scenes.

One of the play's strengths lies in its ability to subvert expectations. What begins as a seemingly light-hearted exploration of gender identity evolves into a nuanced exploration of familial relationships and societal attitudes. Göbner's narrative unfolds with surprises and twists, keeping the audience engaged and invested in the characters' journeys.

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The play's relevance in contemporary society cannot be overstated. Through the lens of Brigitte's journey, "Brigitte Bordeaux" invites reflection on the complexities of identity, the importance of empathy, and the transformative power of acceptance. It encourages audiences to embrace diversity and challenge preconceived notions.

Overall, "Brigitte Bordeaux" is a poignant and uplifting theatrical experience. It strikes a delicate balance between humor and depth, highlighting the universal themes of love, understanding, and self-discovery. With its stellar performances and insightful storytelling, this production leaves a lasting impression and prompts important conversations about inclusivity and respect.

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