

**THE SCOTTISH ARTS COUNCIL**  
**SPECIALIST ADVISER ARTISTIC EVALUATION - MUSIC**

**Organisation/Venue:** Theatre Cryptic

**Title of Event:** Tunnel Visions

**Type of Event:** (e.g. performance, work in progress, opens rehearsal etc)

**Date of Visit:** 26/03/04

This report has been commissioned by the Scottish Arts Council to evaluate the artistic quality of the production named below. It has been prepared by either a specialist Advisor, or a Council Officer, as indicated at the end of the form. The report will be circulated to the organisation which produced the work, to the management of the venue if the venue is core funded by the Scottish Arts Council.

The report may be made available to Scottish Arts Council Officers, Council and Committee members, and specialist advisors as appropriate. It will be taken into account in assessing the work of the producing company in relation to applications for funding to the Scottish Arts Council. It may also be used by the Council to report on the overall performance of its Core Funded organisations.

**Evaluators should enter their rating under each section, explaining briefly their reason for the rating with reference to their comments under each section. Ratings should be given in accordance with the following:**

**Very Poor** –standard falls well below what is acceptable

**Poor**- not attaining acceptable standards of conception or presentation

**Competent**– routine rather than especially interesting

**Good** –well conceived and executed.

**Excellent** –conceived and executed to a high standard.

For multiple performances or festivals, or if you prefer, please feel free to use headings for a more extensive commentary. Please note the artistic assessment according to the ratings detailed above.

**1. Artistic Assessment**

Please evaluate the **artistic quality** of the event(s)

**1.1 Overall production** – was the event successful overall in relation to any stated aims (e.g. in the programme or other printed material, and stated aims and objectives)

Rating for this section <i>(Please tick)</i>		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		
Poor	<b>X</b>	
Competent		
Good		
Excellent		

First of all – I had no real problems with the theatrical presentation of this work, apart from a rather lumpy libretto. The production values of the work were of a high standard and even so I don't think I am being asked to comment on these attributes, I would assume that would be job for an advisor to the Drama department – My main problem with this production was with the "original" music that was written for it – and it was a major problem. I do not enjoy criticising another composers work so formally but I do realise that it would be remiss of me as an advisor to not forego pleasantries and give an inaccurate account of my experience of this productions musical score. The music for this production was BAD...VERY BAD. It contributed to me having one of the worst and most embarrassing experiences I have ever had in the theatre. The music was sub-pastiche and if I were examining it , it would fail at undergraduate level. I cannot understand why a theatre company that commands such respect and shows such high production values can be let down by such amateur music. I feel really bad about writing this but it has to be said.

**1.2 Vision and Imagination.**

Rating for this section <i>(Please tick)</i>		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		
Poor		
Competent	<b>X</b>	
Good		
Excellent		

It would have to be excellent for the dramatic premise and very poor for the music. Please accept competent as a mean result.

**1.3 Standard of performance(s) - where performers are not trained, please reflect this in your comments.**

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:  The musicians / and singers involved were very good. I felt for them....
Very Poor		
Poor		
Competent		
Good		
Excellent	<b>X</b>	

**1.4 Quality of presentation – please comment on whether the event was professionally presented from a technical point of view.**

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:  The production was presented to a high standard.
Very Poor		
Poor		
Competent		
Good		
Excellent	<b>X</b>	

**1.5 Was the performance appropriate for the audience? YES**

**1.6 Estimated size of audience and reaction to the event. HALF FULL / MUTED**

**1.7 If appropriate, please comment on the educational value of the event N/A**

## 2. Management of Event

Please evaluate the way the event was presented/organised by the organisation and by the venue. Please answer, where relevant, with reference to the checklist below adding any other comments/observations you may have.

2.1 Was the venue suitable for the event? **YES**

2.2 Information/Interpretive material provided at the venue (e.g. programmes, displays etc)

- range, quantity and clarity. **EXCELLENT**

2.3 Publicity/Pre-Publicity for the Event (leaflets, posters, etc) **EXCELLENT**

- range, content and when and where available. Please be alert to the publicity available prior to your visit to the event. Please also view and comment on the company's website where one is advertised. Comment on the ease of use, and quality of content and presentation, and currency of information.

2.4 Accessibility of the venue

- ease of payment **EXCELLENT**
- location **EXCELLENT**
- external signposting **EXCELLENT**
- internal directional signing **EXCELLENT**
- access and provision for disabled people **EXCELLENT**
- timing of event **EXCELLENT**

2.5 Customer service **EXCELLENT**

- quality and efficiency of staff (e.g. box office, front of house, bar and/or catering).

3. **Acknowledgement of Scottish Arts Council Funding** (if applicable)

Following is an extract from the Scottish Arts Council's conditions of grant for funded organisations:

*“The company should acknowledge Scottish Arts Council funding in press releases, at launches, on all published materials (including leaflets, brochures, programmes, posters, notices display and exhibition materials, websites and advertising). Acknowledgement of the Scottish Arts Council grant must also be made in any secondary or indirect products arising from the revenue funding such as recordings, publications, video, broadcasts, and computer programmes etc. “*

Please comment on whether the above conditions of grant were met, including use and prominence of the Scottish Arts Council logo on the company's website.

**APPROPRIATE USE OF SAC LOGO WAS IN PLACE**

**Name: Gordon McPherson**

**Date:**

**Advisor**      **?**                      **Scottish Arts Council Officer**      **?**  
(Please tick above as appropriate)