



Scottish **Arts** Council

ARTISTIC EVALUATION – DRAMA

Organisation/Venue: TOSG at Gilmorehill G12, Glasgow

Title of Event: Coille na Ceilp The Kelp Forest by Simon Mackenzie

Type of Event: Performance

Date of Visit: 23rd November 2004

Overall Rating (Please rate the production overall, taking into account your ratings for each section. Please state the key reasons for your overall ratings – i.e. the particular strengths and weaknesses.)

Competent. The story was well told in a fun and enjoyable way. The story was interesting and engaged its young audience. Overall the production meshed the story and songs together quite well.

Name: Sally Hobson

Date: 29th November 2004

Advisor

Scottish Arts Council Officer

Please tick the relevant title

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 an officer of the Scottish Arts Council, as indicated at the end of the form. The report will be circulated to the organisation which produced the work and 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:

1-Very Poor – standard falls well below what is acceptable.

2-Poor – not attaining acceptable standards of conception or presentation.

3-Competent – routine rather than especially interesting.

4-Good – well conceived and executed

5-Excellent – conceived and executed to a high standard.

1. Artistic Assessment

Please evaluate the artistic quality of the event, taking account of the following:

1.	Criteria	Rating	Comment and key reasons for rating
1.1	Vision and imagination	Competent	The story centred around two careless fishermen who visit the seabed and meet three magical creatures, and learn through various adventures to respect the ocean and its resources. The narrative was revealed through a story telling narrative and some basic dramatic action.
1.2	Clarity of Communication	Competent	The story was well told, and explored the dynamics between the characters in a basic and clear way.

2. Strengths and Weaknesses

Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the event with reference to the following:

2.	Criteria	Rating	Comment and key reasons for rating
2.1	Script – particularly in relation to new work or second productions	Competent	Non-Gaelic speaker assessing. The script was fun and enjoyable. The synopsis was very helpful. The tone at times was slightly moralistic.
2.2	Direction	Competent	The direction made the most of the simple tale and was able to be entertaining for the audience for most of the time. Sometimes things were explored in a manner close to clumsy, however overall the story skipped along at a reasonable pace.
2.3	Standard of Performers – where performers are not trained, please reflect this in you comments	Competent	The company worked well together, and put lots of enthusiasm into the production.
2.4	Use of Music ¹	Excellent	This was a lovely part of the production. The singer, Kathleen Graham had a lovely voice and performed very well fully exploring the beauty of the music, her voice and the language. The company contributed to the musical content very well alongside the soloist.

¹ In particular, please comment on the quality and appropriateness of any original music composed for the production. Please indicate whether the music was performed live or recorded, in whole or in parts, and what effect this has on the quality of the production.

2.5	Use of Movement/ Choreography	Competent	Basic and fun.
2.6	Design ² – including set, costume and lighting design	Competent	Basic and effective. Some nice stage effects nicely wrought.
2.7	Technical Standards – was the production professionally presented from a technical point of view	Competent	Competent and effective
2.8	Audience Response – appropriateness of the production for the audience, estimate the size and reaction	Good	The performance on this occasion was full of children who spoke Gaelic. They enjoyed the performance and were very engaged. They liked the humour, and the characters, participated fully and with great gusto.

3. Management of Event

Please evaluate the way the event was presented/organised by the organisation and the venue, with reference to the checklist below, including additional comments/observations.

3.	Criteria	Comments
3.1	Suitability of the venue for the event	Suitable venue, and suitable for audience.
3.2	Information/interpretive material at venue ³	Good presentations in foyer, posters and reviews.
3.3	Publicity/ pre-publicity ⁴	I haven't noticed any
3.4	Ease of booking and payment	Good

² Take into account how appropriate the design is in relation to the venue and, where appropriate, the touring schedule

³ These include programmes, displays etc., including the range, quality and clarity.

⁴ Publicity/pre-publicity (leaflets, posters, etc), including the range, content, and when and where available. Be alert to the publicity available prior to your visit to the event. Also view and comment on the company's website where one is advertised, commenting on the ease of use, and quality of content and presentation, and currency of information

3.5	External signage and signposting	Good
3.6	Internal directional signage	Good
3.7	Access and provision for disabled people	Good, given that the theatre is accessible by a lift or stairs
3.8	Timing of the event – was the length appropriate? Did the start and finish time seem to be appropriate for the audience?	Good
3.9	Customer service - quality and efficiency of staff (e.g., box office, front of house and bar/catering)	Good
3.10	Acknowledgement of Scottish Arts Council funding ⁵	On posters and programmes.

⁵ The 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, 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, computer programmes etc.”

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