

**THE SCOTTISH ARTS COUNCIL  
ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**Organisation/Venue:** Tron Theatre

**Title of Event:** Jack and the Beanstalk

**Type of Event:** Performance

**Date of Visit:** 17<sup>th</sup> December 2002

**1. Artistic Assessment**

**1.1 Please evaluate the artistic quality of the event - its Vision and Imagination; Ability to Communicate and Quality of Production.**

An entertaining show which pokes fun at Panto while revelling in the cheeziness and participation of standard Panto.

**1.2 You are also asked to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the event with specific reference to the following:**

- **Script (particularly in relation to new work, or second productions)**  
Forbes Masson's 1990 script has been expanded and updated for this revival. Additional scenes include a set-up opener where the premise of the Panto spoof is established by a "tastiest link" scene borrowed from TV's Weakest Link. As usual Masson's writing involves outrageously contrived plot devices, even more outrageous rhymes and it all works.
- **Direction**  
The direction of Forbes Masson was inventive, but often hand-knitted. Like the plot it often creaked, but the spirit of the piece carried the audience along.
- **Standard of performers**  
Performances were good. Fletcher Mathers was inexhaustible as Moira the cow and Prince Chinless, and Kevin Lennon brought the requisite gauchness to the part of Jack. His singing did not match his speaking part, but the rest of the cast compensated with strong vocals throughout. They all worked with energy and commitment.
- **Design**  
The design was stylish and entertaining. The only weakness was 'giant land' where the illusion of a huge drop down stage was not achieved – the giant rasher of bacon would surely have folded over the edge?
- **Technical Standards**  
Technically the show was well presented.
- **Appropriateness of production for the audience**

- **Approximate size of audience and reaction**  
There was a full house – mainly adults, but with what seemed a broad social mix. The audience had a great time and responded with enthusiasm both during and after the show.
- **Overall Production**

## 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.

### 2.2 Suitability of the venue for the event:

### 2.3 Information/Interpretative material provided at the venue (eg programmes, displays) - range, quantity and clarity

### 2.4 Publicity/Pre-Publicity for the event (leaflets/posters, etc) - range, content and when and where available

### 2.5 Accessibility of the venue:

- ease of payment Good
- location Good
- direction Good
- access for disabled people Good
- timing of event Good

### 2.6 Customer service - quality and efficiency of staff (eg box office, front of house, bar and/or catering)

Good

**3. Background to your visit**

**3.1 Have you seen the work of this artist/company before?** YES

**3.2 Is this your first visit to this venue?** NO