



Be inspired by amateur theatre

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06/11/19

Rachel Fletcher  
Studio Theatre  
Salisbury

Dear Rachel

Thank you for your kind invitation to the Studio Theatre production of, "A Bunch of Amateurs" at The Studio Theatre, Salisbury on Saturday 19th October

Sarah and I both thought that it was an excellent play which was very enjoyable.

Please pass on our thanks and congratulations to all concerned.

Kind regards

Brian Oliver  
NODA SW District 12

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**National Operatic and Dramatic Association**

15 The Metro Centre, Peterborough PE2 7UH

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19 October

**Studio Theatre Salisbury**

**A Bunch of Amateurs**

**The Studio Theatre**

**Directed by Anthony von Roretz**

“A Bunch of Amateurs” written by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman, seems to be a very popular choice with drama groups throughout region at the moment. Having always been very impressed with the previous Studio Theatre productions that I have seen. I was eagerly looking forward to seeing this performance.

In the sleepy little Suffolk village of Stratford the local drama group are struggling to keep going. In an attempt to save their Theatre the committee decide to engage an American Actor from Hollywood to play King Lear in their next production. Jefferson Steel, a faded Hollywood action hero, arrives in England thinking that he is going to be performing at the home of Shakespeare in Stratford upon Avon.

I think A Bunch of Amateurs is a wonderful script and once again I was aching with laughter throughout as the Jefferson Steel clashes with the enthusiastic local amateur group who have to suffer his prima donna demands and expectations. Anyone in the world of amateur theatre may had seen the scenarios of this play acted out in front of them many times

It never fails to surprise me that with the same script, a different group and director can make a play look entirely different. I was very impressed with set that was built on three levels, it looked good and it work superb. Jefferson’s drunken scene, with the attics high up on a ladder, was very well performed, excellent direction.

The cast members, as I have come to expect with this group, were well directed and they all gave an excellent performance. I did think that Paul Chalmers (Jefferson Steel) and Samantha Luckman (Dorothy) were both outstanding.

I was recently reading article that discussing the differences between professional and amateur theatre productions. In many cases, as with Studio Theatre, the difference is only, that everyone involved gives their time for no economic reward.

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