

p r e s s r e l e a s e

listen with your eyes

No words ... but the message is loud and clear

Much can be said without words ... and Australian Theatre of the Deaf's new play 'Snakes and Ladders' proves it.

Launched at the International Deaf Theatre Festival (Brisbane), this innovative play was heralded one of the top acts in an international field from America, Asia and Europe.

Performed by three talented Deaf actors 'Snakes and Ladders' is a poignant journey by a young woman into the internal landscape of the mind. Her thoughts are materialised on stage as an independent shadow. Stunning choreography between these two characters establishes a paradox of tension and harmony that mirrors the highs and lows of life good and bad times that occur as if we are ruled by the random roll of a dice. The result is a revealing story with a positive punch.

'Snakes and Ladders' is universal. Not only will the story touch all with laughter and emotion but the style allows a universal understanding. The visual style speaks to all audiences; hearing, Deaf, young and old. There are no language or communication barriers.

This year Australian Theatre of the Deaf (ATOD) celebrates its 20th birthday as a professional company. Many people will know and love ATOD for their witty and entertaining school shows that tour throughout Australia, performing to over 50,000 children each year.

Apart from school shows, each year ATOD also produces one main-stage production and a smaller touring show for the general public. The last public performance was critically acclaimed "equal to a main-stage production at Sydney Theatre Company or Company B." (*Independent Reviewer for the Australia Council for the Arts*). The touring show 'Snakes and Ladders' continues this reputation of quality as it entertains audiences in Parramatta and other venues across NSW and Victoria.

Director: Tony Strachan (other credits include writer of 'State of Shock')
Actors: Medina Bucciarelli, Kate Nelson and Michael Ng

Parramatta Riverside Theatre: 8pm Friday 8 Oct, 4 & 8 pm Saturday 9 Oct

New Theatre (Newtown): 8pm Mon 11 Oct

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