

**Review: 9 to 5 The Musical**

**By Dulcie Harrison**

### ***9 to 5 The Musical* at Theatre Royal Plymouth**

Another 5 star show hits the stage at our beloved Theatre Royal Plymouth!

If you're a fan of musicals, catch 9-5

If you're a fan of Dolly Parton, catch 9-5

If you're looking for a bit of escapism, catch 9-5

If you want a girls night out, catch 9-5

If you want some nostalgia, catch 9-5..

If you want.. Yes I could go on... because this show just hits in all the right places.

Based on the 1980's film of the same name, the show centres around 3 women who come together to defeat their rather sleazy, corrupt and simply horrid male boss. I think it manages to capture the kind of misogyny that was so widely accepted as normal practice in the 80's but it can come across as rather cringy at times and luckily behaviour like that is on the whole shunned by society now.

The set is spectacular, as you can imagine being designed by Dolly herself there is enough glitz and glam to last a lifetime. The incredible lighting only enhances the show further. The set design effortlessly glides on and off the stage or is easily manipulated into the next scene.

Dolly herself appears in a huge golden clock sporadically throughout the show and plays her part as the narrator- so it's not the end of the world if you haven't seen the film. I haven't seen it and was able to follow the storyline very easily with her help!

The plot takes its own merry way through a succession of bright 80's outfits and ludicrous ideas such as "accidentally putting poison in her boss's tea" and dressing the boss up in kinky gear and.. Well.. I wouldn't want to spoil everything for you but it's terribly funny.

Every song in this fabulous show is a masterpiece. For me the best song in the show is 9-5 and sounds great in the theatre's auditorium. TRP always just gets the sound so perfect. No matter where you sit, the show envelops you into its heart and takes you for a fun ride through many different types of songs, all written by Dolly, some catchy, some moving, "Get out and stay out" even made the lady sitting next to me cry, it moved her so much.

The cast are phenomenal, their voices are pitch perfect and carry themselves effortlessly through the show. You could see the joy on the audience's faces by how in awe they were - smiles, laughter and cheer were heard and seen all around.

You would find it hard to find fault with any part of this show, it is guaranteed to give you an ear worm of '9-5' for a few days but above all that, it is great to see how far women have come in the workplace since the 80's and it's a real celebration of that triumph. It embodies empowerment and equality in an uplifting and inspiring way.

Grab your tickets now before it leaves Plymouth, it's so good you'll want to see it twice, and as a matter of fact.. I am, tonight!