

**Review: The Da Vinci Code**

**By Dulcie Harrison**

***The Da Vinci Code* at Theatre Royal Plymouth**

*The Da Vinci Code* is gracing the stage at our beloved Theatre Royal Plymouth for one week only.

Based on the best-selling book which had a hugely successful film adaptation starring Tom Hanks; it tells the story of lecturer Robert Langdon and cryptographer Sophie Neveu and how they get caught up in a murder case which leads to a series of clues, and surprises as part of a chase to a priceless artifact with all the answers... However, they're not the only ones after this item, and how quickly could you solve a mystery when you don't know what you're looking for next? Well, just get ready for a fast-paced drama which will take you down some unexpected rabbit holes that remain engaging and captivating as it paces through.

The superb cast is led by Nigel Harman who plays Robert Langdon, Hannah Rose Caton plays Sophie Neveu and Danny John-Jules is Sir Leigh Teabing. Harman's performance is perfect, he really brings Langdon to life on the stage. Able to take us effortlessly on the journey with him through the amazing streets of Paris with the incredible scenery and fantastic videography (David Woodhead set design and Andrzej Goulding video design).

This play just features so many different locations which easily transforms from one place to the other in front of you, it truly is just pure magic before your eyes. Danny John-Jules portrays Sir Leigh Teabing's complex character very well. Some of the twists and turns along the way come by complete surprise. His butler Remy (Alasdair Buchan) also plays the mystery aspect well, the two characters and actors complement each other so well.

The lighting and technical effects throughout the performance enhance the show and keep you in complete awe as you watch the solving of each new clue unfold and come to light through shifting numbers and letters on the walls and projected videos and images displayed making you feel part of the scene and in the moment with the characters.

This play keeps you on the edge of your seat as you anticipate what will happen next. With each new clue and discovery, you're taken on a new and unpredictable journey which engages you to solve the clues with the characters and immerse yourself in the gripping, chilling, and exciting story. It is truly wonderful that *The Da Vinci Code* has come to the Theatre Royal Plymouth. The entire cast and crew are fantastic, and the play definitely made me very interested in cryptic mystery solving!

Catch this while you can, you won't regret it!