

*noda*  
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Dear Neil,

I just wanted to thank you for your invitation to come and review your production of 'Our House'.

This production, like Sweet Charity, is very much dependant on having an extremely strong and versatile lead. You were blessed with such a lead. I have commented before on the depth of talent Theatreworxz has and, as before, you have stretched that talent to prove its worth.

Once again yourself and Anita have pooled your respective talents to deliver. The Direction was excellent, Anita's choreography and Musical Direction equally so. Congratulations to you both.

The set was very cleverly designed and used; Scenery changes and backstage techniques were slick and seemingly effortless. (The car scene was excellent with a capital E) Well done to Mark Walker, Ronnie Johnson and team. The band was 'tight' and kept this fast paced show moving at a tempo.

The structure of the show is similar to 'Blood Bros'; the hovering father figure, two differing routes for the lead to take and the repetition of a main theme. And like Blood Bros the show is full of pathos, humour and lots of character parts. Whilst I could not 'fault' any of the performers in their own roles there were some that excelled. Leisa Cooke (Kath) was excellent. She has a natural talent that deserves a bigger stage. Very well done! The same can be said for Lester Cooke (Emmo) and Jon Baish (Lewis). They were reminiscent of a panto comedy duo in the finest tradition and rightfully deserved the applause at their walkdown. Neil Richardson had an assured presence on stage and, much as the narrator does in Blood Bros, linked the piece together. Very well played sir. Alan Galway, Caroline Jenkins, and Jenine Grover each brought their own stamp to their respective characters and Sam Holbird (Reecey) became more sinisterly brooding as the show progressed. Well done to all.

However, undoubtedly the star of the show was Steve Hough (Joe Casey). Both his talent and effort deserve huge recognition. His performance was one of the highlights of my time as Noda Rep and I would appreciate it if you passed on my thanks and admiration to him personally. Rarely have I seen an 'Amateur' perform so professionally. Superb.

This was a treat of a show and I consider myself privileged to have seen it.

Neil, please be so kind as to pass on my gratitude to all those involved in the production and thank them on my behalf for an extremely enjoyable afternoon out.

Kindest regards,

Kevin Sheen – Regional Representative  
NODA East Midlands – District 7

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