

## Romeo and Juliet

On 5th August 2017, students participating in the Cambridge programme went to the King's College Garden to enjoy "Romeo and Juliet". It is directed by Dr. Simon Bell. It's a tragic love story between the two main characters Romeo and Juliet.

It's my first time experiencing an outdoor play. Sitting on the grass on a freezing evening, I didn't expect the play to be as brilliant as it was. The stage didn't have much equipment for the play. The setting was simple, so basically it's an area covered with grass for them to perform. However, I discovered that <sup>the</sup> settings are not the core part for a fantastical play, it <sup>indeed</sup> <sup>is</sup> how the speeches are delivered.

First of all, the actors and actresses were dressed perfectly. Their clothing shows their personality, it matches fully with their characters. Not only did they dressed also marvellously, but <sup>also</sup> their appearance that attract me a lot. I really appreciate the actor who was playing the part of Mercutio. He is <sup>indeed</sup> <sup>very</sup> <sup>funny</sup> and also exaggerating a lot. Despite

the difficulties in acting kindly and bravely like Mercutio, he has impressed me by how well he did. Unfortunately, he was killed by Tybalt and didn't appear on stage afterwards.

In general, all performers did an incredibly superb job.

Their interaction with the audience enabled us to be more engaged in the play and this experience was extraordinary.

Although actors and actresses performed amazingly good without having much equipment on stage, I think they have backgrounds to show the difference between the street view and the Capulet house. Since there were time constraint two scenes were happening at the same time. When one scene attracts me more than the other, I may have missed some important conversations among the actors.

As a whole, I enjoyed the play a lot and I would recommend it to everyone. It's really amazingly.

Anon

On 5th of August, I visited King's College Gardens to watch "Romeo and Juliet" directed by Dr. Simon Bell.

The weather was nice and cool in the evening, with soft sunshine and also some moonlight afterwards. Sitting at the front row on the lawn was a fascinating experience since it allows me to have a close look at the set and feel the connection between performers and the audience.

The lovely actors and actresses were definitely the spot light of the play. Michael Cummings and Jemima Wattie, who played Romeo and Juliet, appeared as young romantic lovers filled with enthusiasm towards each other. Their natural acting made the first half of the play dynamic and delightful, which was what I enjoyed the most in the play. I could feel the joy of these two characters falling in love. In the second half of the play, the storyline mainly consists of heavy sadness. Michael and Jemima absolutely did a great job in expressive the characters' emotions well, showing us these starcrossed lovers' despair. The other characters were also incredible. Cassandra Hodge who plays the Nurse impressed me a lot by her acting and the accent. She used to act in concert with the nurses' character. Teddy Corbett who played Mercutio was humorous and succeeded in standing out from the others.

Gareth Llewellyn, James Eken, Liz McMullan  
who played Friar Lawrence & Tybalt and Lady Capulet,  
also presented brilliant performance.

To summarise, the play was enjoyable. I recommend  
it to people of all age groups.

Anon

## Review of 'Romeo and Juliet'

On 5th August, the well-known play 'Romeo and Juliet' was shown at King's College Garden. The Garden was decorated by multicolored LED lights. Under the gorgeous moonlight, a moving love story bursted into life in a fairyland of flowers.

'Romeo and Juliet' was directed by Dr. Simon Bell. Main characters Romeo and Juliet were played by Michael Cummings and Jemima Walling respectively. I was entirely impressed by Tybalt's (played by James Eken) performance. Tybalt is Juliet's cousin, who killed Mercutio and caused Romeo to be banished from Verona. In the play, Tybalt was handy with sword. Every fighting scene were extremely exciting. James acted with macho and aggressiveness, which was perfectly matched with the original Tybalt. It seemed that Tybalt was standing in front of me!

Yet, it was frizzily cold. It made me shivered throughout the night. Moreover, it's a pity that the actors made less interaction with the audience than I expected.

To conclude, it was a glamorous play accompanied by grand settings and sophisticated performing skills. I was fully amazed and enjoyed the play so much. I highly recommended this play to people who loved moving love story.

Sharon

We watched "Romeo and Juliet" directed by Dr. Simon Bell in the King's College on 5<sup>th</sup> August. We watched it outdoors at night, sitting on grassland.

It was the first time I had watched "Romeo and Juliet" without a stage and settings. This was a new experience for me, and I enjoyed watching it in this nice environment. I appreciated the acting skills of the actors and their ability to capture audiences' attention. Their exaggerated reactions made me laugh, and I could understand the flow of the story even I didn't understand all of the lines. That was really a great experience.

However, I was expecting more interactions between the actors and the audiences. There were just a few, and I was disappointed by that. I also thought that Tybalt should be a more nasty person, but he was too well-dressed that it didn't suit his character. I even thought he was Romeo when I first saw him.

Overall, I thought it was a great show to watch, with amazing actors and the relaxing environment. I recommend it to everyone, no matter young or old, and to the ones who know the story or not, as it is easy to understand, and you will have different feelings every time you watch it.

Anon

## Review of "Romeo and Juliet"

6-8-2017

On August 5, students of the Academic English class of the Cambridge Programme went to the King's College Garden to watch the legendary play "Romeo and Juliet" which is one of the most popular events of the Cambridge Shakespeare Festival.

Being a classical masterpiece, "Romeo and Juliet" has been remade for so many times. Then what is the special thing of this version which is directed by Dr. Simon Bell? I would say it is the most humorous version among all. Although there were only a few spaces for acting and the props were simple, the actors still gave a funny performance to us. Unlike other remade versions which are either romantic or serious, there are some modern elements added in this play. Instead of only using the artistic and difficult language of Shakespeare, the director used more simple and direct language which helps us especially those people who are not native speakers to understand and appreciate the play. Because of the limited props used, the actors needed to use words and body language to express what they were doing. For example, when Romeo was dying. Since he was inside a mosquito net, the

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audience was not able to see what he was doing clearly. Therefore, he screamed, "I did." Everyone around one burst into laughter. This simple and strong language used really helps audience understand the play and enhance their viewing experiences.

I am genuinely impressed by the actors' incredible performances. Although the weather was extremely cold yesterday, the actors still managed to give the best performance. My favourite character of the play yesterday is Mercutio, which is played by Teddy Corbett. Mercutio is an emotional and loyal character. The most unforgettable scene for me is the scene which Mercutio encourages Romeo to join the party of the Capulet's family. At first, he was laughing and mumbling to himself exhilaratingly. But suddenly, he turned angry and threw the mask towards Romeo. This sudden emotion change is shown clearly to the audience. I am deeply impressed by his performance.

Overall, it is an amazing play. During the holidays, let's check out this play with your family! brilliant.

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