



Total TheaterSM

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- Referencia
- Criticopia
- Periodica
- Photorium

CRITICOPIA REGIONAL THEATER

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Show Title	One Hit Wonders
Subtitle	
Total Rating	***
Currently Running?	NO
Dates	Opened March 23, 2004; Ended May 29, 2004
Country	USA
State	Florida
City/Town	Sarasota
Theater Type	Regional
Producer/Theater Co.	Florida Studio Theater (Richard Hopkins, artistic dir)
Theater	FST Goldstein Cabaret
Theater Address	1241 North Palm Avenue
Box Office Phone	(941) 366-9000
Running Time	90 min
Genre	Revue
Author	Florida Studio Theater, from an idea by Dennis Courtney
Director	Dennis Courtney

Director Dennis Courtney

Review Composers, lyricists or performers often achieved fame for a single "hit" that entered the "Top 40" singles charts. In *One Hit Wonders*, its latest revue, Florida Studio Theater weaves songs singly and in themed medleys, using "American Pie" (oddly, since Don McLean had more than one hit) as a shuttle. On an innovatively silver-draped backdrop, lights frame and announce the title in exciting variations. As in most FST Cabaret revues, Michael Sebastian provides fine piano and arrangements as four singer-dancers, solo (sometimes with back-up) or in combinations, act out the song lyrics. "Leader of the Pack" calls for black leather jackets and handlebars for the miming guys, along with loud rev-ups. They brandish cigarettes (but, thank goodness, don't light up) for "Smokin' in the Boys' Room." Very blond Julie Cardia whips off a black trench coat and, in her low-cut, high-skirted, predominantly DayGlo pink outfit tells the "Harper Valley PTA" where to get off. From then on, she goes over the top on most numbers. They all do on the "Theme from Rocky." Jim Weaver, as usual, gives his considerable all vocally and dramatically in every segment he's in and almost shows all, after a comic "I'm Too Sexy," for "The Stripper." Gary Lindemann unfortunately seems weak, especially on ballads. In an unflattering black and brown outfit, he fades in and out of two versions of Richard Harris' hit "MacArthur Park." Jannie Jones demonstrates the vocal clarity and resonance that make her an FST favorite. Her "Me and Bobby McGee" is surely as touching as Janis Joplin's. Always able to get an audience clapping along, Jannie leads a rousing "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" in the vein of Laurie London. As if there weren't a plethora of choreography in the various presentations, a whole "section" of the revue's second half is devoted to dance numbers like the "Macarena" and "Locomotion." A few calm moments come with snippets of theorizing on why fame hit certain music makers only once. Another "Monster Mash," anyone?

Caution/Guidance

Other Critics SARASOTA HERALD-TRIBUNE Jay Handelman !

Miscellaneous

Awards

Cast	Julie Cardia, Jannie Jones, Gary Lindemann, James Weaver
Technical Staff	Choreography: Dennis Courtney; Musical Dir: Michael Sebastian; Set, Costumes: Marcella Beckwith; Lights: Jeffrey Dillon; Piano: Michael Sebastian.
Critic	Kilker, Marie J.
Date Reviewed	March 2004