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Panoptikum Nürnberg 2008 - Queen

The Nuremberg "Panoptikum" Festival starts in the best of moods.

If you wanted to put it boldly, you could say that "childrens theatre" works best if you don't have the feeling that it was especially made for children. The Nuremberg Panoptikum festival started by proving just this point with productions from Holland and Switzerland. Here children and Adults could laugh, either together or on their own. With their simulated live recording of a radio-play, the renowned Schaffhausen based group, "Theater Sgaramusch" brought a great atmosphere to this Festival.

Dieter Stoll

Abendzeitung, February 15, 2008

Theater Sgaramusch from Switzerland magically got things off to a magnificent start. If this Festival is to be dedicated to the senses, then in "Queen", Nora Vonder Mühl and Gerhard Goebel are concentrating themselves very much on our ears.

A minimalist recording studio is all that they need to tell the whole story, albeit sometimes in the most unconventional way, of Queen Elisabeth the 1st of England and her rival, Mary Queen of Scots. With an abundance of wit, precision and some very simple devices for creating big effects this "making of" deconstructed radio play allows the audience to create a wonderful kind of cinema in their own minds. In this tightly spun story about affairs of state and affairs of the heart the two actors alternate between characters and narrators. The audience is present in precedings from the outset and plays with zeal the role of the "people" even calling in unision for the head of one of the Queen's husbands. Wonderful!

Birgit Nüchterlein / Katharina Erlenwein

Nürnberg Nachrichten, February 15, 2008