

Reviews – Rebecca Lister

Bits and Pieces

'Lister's deceptively simple but clever structuring of four monologues slowly, simultaneously, weaves together and unravels a complex patchwork of story, character, psychology and emotion that radiates from one central action. In her usual clear language, Bits and Pieces is challenging, engaging, humorous, bleak, warm and shattering. Lister has created a tight performance work whose surface accessibility invites us into a relational vortex whose centre, the act of a woman leaving her child, is perhaps one of the most inaccessible and avoided questions of our society. I believe it's an important work that opens up important conversations about how we define women, mothers and families. And how we respond to people who challenge the status quo definitions.' - Catherine Ryan, Playwright and Theatre Maker.

If I should die before I wake

'The writing is incredibly sparse where it needs to be, creating an enormous repressed emotionality, which accumulates to the very affecting end. At the same time it captures the natural ebb and flow of intimate conversation, using words not so much to convey meaning as to describe relationships.' - Maude Davey, Artistic Director, Vitalstatistix

'It's wonderful to read a play with some real substance in the subject matter and where the characters are so fleshed out and human. We need plays that allow us to give voice to our many sides.' Margot Knight, Shy Tiger Productions

Home For Lunch

***'This is unapologetically accessible and entertaining theatre...'
'...laugh out loud with recognition'*** - The Age

'Incisive... plenty of humour thanks to the witty one liners'... - The Jewish News

'Identification Theatre For Retirees'... - The Herald Sun

Ici

Australian theatre group ensemble **loin d'ici** performs Rebecca Lister's latest work **Ici** for the first time at the Australia Arts Festival in Divonne, France, in 2012.

Two chairs, a string of sausages, a black dress and a small paper fan are all that are required to bring **Ici** to life. Plus Sian Prior, a classically trained opera singer and musician. And three very talented, experienced Australian actresses: Rebecca Lister, Lisa Male-Roberston and Margot Knight.

Ici, written by award winning playwright Lister especially for the [Australia Arts Festival](#), explores the lives of three very different women who would be surprised to find they have a desperate loneliness in common.

The play was performed in English and French in honor of the bi-lingual flavor of the festival. And it seems that the theme was a common one to both cultures, despite the quintessential Australian setting. The audience were totally immersed as the characters slowly, through nuance and seemingly insignificant detail, revealed the desolation they felt.

The haunting sound of the clarinet both introduces and concludes each of the monologues and at the most poignant point of each woman's confession, the pure soprano voice of Sian Prior complements their wanting with songs of desire and loss. Marlene de Wilde, Digital Journal Reports