

Brief audience feedback/discussion recorded by Charlie Davison (volunteer) immediately after:-

## LIZ AGGISS IS THE ENGLISH CHANNEL

Colchester Arts Centre, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Charlie:- *What did you think?*

Audience member (female 1):- *It was absolutely fantastic! It was the best thing I've seen for a long time.*

Charlie:- *So which were the bits that made you think that?*

Audience member (female 1):- *I just thought everything about her whole performance was very original - I've never seen anything like it before I thought she is a marvellous dancer and performer - I loved it!*

Charlie:- *Err - a bit of a pedestrian question I'm afraid but - Is there a message in it d'you think?*

Audience member (female 1):- *(warmly) Yeah - definitely!*

Charlie:- *I loved it as well! - What do you think I was meant to take away from it, if there is a message?*

Audience member (female 1):- *I think it was all about her life and the life of women in general*  
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Audience member (male 1):- *And that you should grow old disgracefully!*  
  
*(laughter)*

Audience member (female 2):- *I thought it was done from her heart and that she isn't someone who's doing this to make money - She's doing it because it's in her blood. And it's honest and you can feel her passion. And that's why I was totally enthralled the whole time.*

Charlie:- *From what she said I think she's about the same age as me. And I think it's quite unusual to see a woman of my age who is doing the sexy stuff on stage. How did that strike you?*

Audience members (female 2):- *Not at all... I think the bad thing is that women in general of whatever age are not seen enough and especially if they're older and I think it's amazing - And what's wrong? I don't think there's anything weird about that.*

Charlie:- *(laughter) No - not weird - I loved it! (laughter)!*

Audience member (female 1):- *(laughter) Yeah - I'm off home now to put on MY gear!! (laughter) - I've got RACKS of it - that I'm too nervous to bring out! But I'm now going to get it out!! (laughter)*

Charlie:- *(laughter) I'm going to ask the only other bloke here.. (laughter)*

Audience member (male 2):- *I thought she was brilliant! I loved it. I thought she was a fantastic dancer actually, although she played it along a bit. But when she did things like the swimming actions - they were just so beautiful. You know. And then she kept varying it... wrong-stepping you... err wrong-footing you... it was brilliant!*

Charlie:- *For me it's a "feel-good" show - but why is that?*

Audience member (female 1):- *I dunno - well because she's very humorous I mean, you know, as Bob says she keeps wrong-footing you and it makes you laugh and some of it seems quite serious and then she'll just, you know, bring it back to sort of humour again - so I think that's why it makes you feel good, in the end.*

Audience member (female 2):- *(to Charlie) What do you mean by "feel-good"??...*

Charlie:- *I'm smiling!! You know... you said that you're gonna go home and get the gear out - and I kind of feel the same!!*

Audience member (female 2):- *(loudly and emphatically) Because - she does it from her HEART!*

Audience member (male 1):- *But it's also that combination really... of comic and so serious and very sort of .. feeling.*

Audience member (female 1):- *Heartfelt - that is.*

Audience member (female 2):- *(emphatically) I think she lives the life! I'm sure that that's how she is in real life and that there's no... that it's not false.*

Charlie:- *I've been really busy today - I was knackered when I turned up! And yet.. I feel full of energy now..*

Audience member (female 1):- *Exactly!..That's a great show isn't it? That's what you want to come out feeling like really.*

Audience member (female 2):- *yeah..if only there were more things like this - it'd be amazing. So many times it's pretentious.. You feel the person is making fun of you.. and you don't know what they're doing..and they're just trying to be artistic..*

Charlie:- *But none of those are true from tonight?*

Audience members (female 1 and male 1):- *No, no!*

Audience member (female 2):- *Not at all! I just wish we could see more of her... but you know.. I bet she doesn't want to be seen all the time.. on the telly!!*

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Audience member (male 3) (he's been waiting to say a few words) *Hello! I was completely enthralled. First of all I thought it was going to be some "arty nonsense" - but then the whole thing came through and it ended up really engaging. And all the way through.. you know.. she's UNPREDICTABLE. She's a late punk and she's continued with the spirit, hasn't she? It's obviously about death and how she reflects on HER life ... maybe it's about fighting against death and, you know, you can't fear it, so just enjoy life. That's what I took from it.*

Charlie:- *I love that phrase "arty nonsense"! ... cos you know, if we went somewhere and just described that show to someone. And said yeah it was dark and then she came on and it went into a bit of Robin Hood and then there was a bit of this... they'd think: "Arty Nonsense"!...- 'Cos they weren't here! D'you see what I mean?*

Audience member     **Yeah!**  
(male 3)

Charlie:-             **Whereas we know what it felt like..**

Audience member     **Yeah - it was - it was extremely engaging!**  
(male 3)