

THE DATE - RHIANNON FAITH

Colchester Arts Centre, 25th March 2015

Charlie *We've just come out— what did you think?*

Audience Member
Male 1. *I've never seen anything like it, it just had a perfect balance of humour, softness. It was raw in places— you didn't quite know what was real and what was staged. And just at the end when they stare into each others eyes for so long, it just felt really powerful. You really got a feeling it was a couple. I was really moved by it.*

Charlie (to
female 1) *What did you think?*

Audience Member
Female 1. *I thought it was really very arty – really very artistic. They were really talented. I loved the dancers and I loved the performance. Yeah, like Jed said - you couldn't really tell what was real and what was kind of staged, you know?*

Charlie *For me... I was wondering all the way through— is this a true story? They told us at the beginning "this is a true story". But did you believe that?*

Audience Member
Male 1. *I'm still trying to work that one out(laughs). I don't know— I'm confused actually. It leaves you quite confused as to whether it's a true story or not. It's really quite believable and err... You know, it's like part of real life put into a really good art form... So, yeah!*

Charlie *I can see that you guys came here as a couple— if I might say that!*

Audience Member
Male 1. *Yeah! (laughs)*

Charlie *And..., Did you think there were things in the show that you recognised from your own life – your own relationship?*

Audience Member Male 1. *(Laughs). We've been married a long time now! (Laughs)... But it reminded us...*

Audience Member Female 1. *I was thinking about relationships in my own life, through the performance, actually... so it did get you thinking about your own life, throughout the performance , yeah.*

Charlie *I don't know about you. But I found that there was the bit when she said that he had to go away to work. He went away to work on a project in Jordan. And she obviously really felt that. The character really felt that. I mean has anything like that ever happened to you?*

Audience Member Female 1. *Errm - I was trying to kind of relate it to my own life. You know just things like breakups. Or when we have had had a little break, or something (laughs). Even though it wasn't so much that my partner went a long way away geographically – but we did have kind of, you know, a short term break. So I kind of related it to that in my life (laughs).*

Charlie *Yeah - it's only that I was mapping some of my life onto it - do you think that everyone in the audience was doing that?*

Audience Member Male 1. *Yeah - I'd imagine so.*

Audience Member Female 1. *Yeah they must have been thinking about their own lives, yeah.*

Charlie *One more question. Do you think that Rhiannon who put it all together, do you think that she wanted us to come away with any particular feeling. Do you think she was trying to provoke any particular feelings within us?*

Audience Member Female 1. *(long pause...) (laughs) I don't know, actually...*

Audience Member Male 1. *I think it is one of those shows that you have to give it a bit of time – You know to process..*

Audience Member Female 1. *yeah .. to process it.*

Audience Member Male 1. *I think we're going to sit down later and have a good talk about it.*

Audience Member Female 1. *I think it is going to be something that you think about for a long time after the performance is actually over. So... yeah.*

Charlie *Great! Thank you very very much!*

Charlie *We've just finished watching it. What did you think?*

Audience Member Female 2. *Though I understood what the lady on the step and the story was trying to say – I was mesmerised by the female dancer. I was watching more her technique and the way that she was performing, as opposed to what she was trying to say as a story... So... I was more mesmerised by her actually and thinking "wow!" "What a lot of strength!" (Laughs) So...*

Charlie *Are you a dancer yourself?*

Audience Member Female 2. *(Laughs). No no! I just like..., Kind of! (Laughs)*

Audience Member Female 3 *Watch her technique! Absolutely mesmerising! I love that! And we were just saying how light-footed they both were and they don't really portray ...err.. stereotypical kind of images of dancers - how light and beautiful the dancers are.*

Charlie *What are your first impressions on the emotional front –I mean did it touch you emotionally?*

Audience Member
Female 3.

Yeah - totally in fact. That's what's really interesting for us. I mean that's like Jenny was saying... err ... she was picking out the beautiful technique... whereas for me it was kicking off all these memories of past relationships... And kind of really lovely people that I was with for a time and then kind of thinking "Wow - What happened there? Why didn't that work out?" Because there's probably say a handful- no more than two or three - boyfriends that were just lovely lovely people. But it was either just the wrong time, or the wrong moment or just, you know, someone wanted to do something else with their lives. It just makes me feel really sad! (Laughs). Because I was just thinking- God! I have so been there! And I wonder what they're doing now. And, you know, it really really touched me. So, yeah!

Charlie

What? So you were just left thinking - "it could have been"?

Audience Member
Female 3.

Yeah! Yeah! Definitely! You know it's sometimes just the wrong time with that person... so yeah... distant memories...

Charlie
(to Female 2)

Did you do that thing that we both did? Like mapping our own lives and our own histories? 'Cos I definitely did that! (Laughter)

Audience Member
Female 2.

Yeah! (Laughs a lot) yeah! (Laughter). Not a lot more to be said really. Like Millie says. It's the whole thought process. And it even dates back to when you first started dating - there is no one set period of time where you think "oh, yes". You look at the whole span of when you were dating - how you were dating. So it was from... it even captured being at school, and going ... and when you were dating at school as opposed to early teens and late teens and twenties sort of thing - so yeah... really good!

Charlie

One of the things that really struck me was the visual aspect. You have mentioned the beautiful smooth movement and the soft movement. But the set itself and the use of technology and the lights. Did that strike you?

Audience Member
Female 2.

Yes, I loved it! I think that was just ... as soon as it started and that was happening it was "wow!". And there was that sort of spark of energy - and injecting different media into it whether it was the video footage or digital animations overlaid... it just brought it alive. That is what I love about this sort of performance- you don't know what you're going to get. It's not a stereotypical theatre experience. And I think that's really refreshing. And really invigorating.

Charlie

Great.. thank you very much!