British Theatre Guide

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Your Bard

Nicholas Collett Assembly Hall 2–27 August 2018



Nicholas Collett is clearly an accomplished actor. He came up with the idea of presenting a biographical solo of William Shakespeare by playing the man on stage.

The result is subtitled "An informal audience with Will Shakespeare in the pub". That is not a bad description of a curate's egg of a show.

The Shakespeare is fine, delivered powerfully, if to a bigger space and audience than the one in attendance.

The surrounding patter might work for late night pub habitués or possibly schools audiences but most of the jokes are corny and the audience involvement will either delight or embarrass depending on taste.

By the end, visitors with a limited knowledge of the Bard's history will have learned rather more but some may have felt more with greater knowledge and less of the forced comedy.

Reviewer: Philip Fisher