

## When One Door Closes @ La Boite Review

Written by Kate Atkinson for SCENESTR, Friday, 08 April 2016



**If you're familiar with the stories of Nora ('A Doll's House'), Hedda Gabler and Miss Julie from their 19th Century plays you'll know these three heroines questioned women and their role in a male-dominated society and arguably changed the literary world.**

La Boite Theatre Company's newest production to hit the stage, 'When One Door Closes', brings these three characters together in a parallel universe with no limits to the imagination. Performed by local contemporary circus, Circa, 'When One Door Closes' is an extraordinary performance questioning the roles of men and women and redefining theatre.

The incredible cast from Circa show exemplary talent, technique and skill as they moved, flew and lift their way through various enthralling routines that will have you on the edge of your seat throughout the show. Set on a springboard-turned-stage, viewable from 360 degrees in the Roundhouse Theatre. The stage area was utilised so effectively that at times you're not only captivated by what's happening in the centre, but your eyes dart between the plethora of acrobatics in all corners at the same time.

This thrilling show full of drama and intensity is also quite light and humorous. You may wonder if a man vacuuming is worthy of laughter when we're trying to tackle stereotypes and forget the traditional roles of men and women. It's undoubtedly entertaining and funny all the same.

The costumes provide bright block colours and textures aiding the colourful performance – as

do the choreography and composition which are visually appealing. The musical score also provides a fitting descriptive musical story to assist in telling the tale through movement and music only. At times the music stops and the audience are left with pants and grunts from the performers, bringing to light the incredible amount of strength, agility and endurance these athletes bring to the stage. It's awe-inspiring.

The storyline gets a little lost somewhere in the middle, but it's all part of the craziness you get caught up in. But one thing was for sure, the audience are entranced and amazed. The performance is abstract and elusive but also captivating, entertaining and highly enjoyable.