

Really excellent piece of theatre. I was not expecting it to be such a good play. It was well written, well acted and it was nice to see such a contemporary piece of theatre outside the west end.

Very clever weaving of race, identity and religion into a gut bustingly funny production.

Tackled very challenging issues in a brilliant way.

The tranny was unnecessary and there was no relevance to gender or sexual orientation angle in the play
very funny

1. This play is absolutely worth seeing but flawed. In the first few minutes the characters do not fully convince, but when the play gets into its stride, it is exciting, funny, moving and brave. The second-half starts well but loses its way. It goes from being good comedy-of-character to something less engaging, agit-prop. The creditable attempt to get across a complex message becomes too worthy. The policeman is a device used to carry too much weight (and is simply on stage for too long). The latter part of the play almost insults the intelligence of any audience that could appreciate the first part. The Obama aspect isn't a dramatic solution and will "date" very quickly. Mr Brown comes across as a fool rather than a villain and is too sympathetic for us to feel unmoved by his death, so their indifference reflects badly on the rest of the characters. Finally, there are some accents (Julia's father's for instance) which need ironing out.

Predictable and boring with lots of very stereotypical characters shouting at each other. Nearly left at interval. The acting wasn't that good either and it was over long.

Was expecting something better than or at least as good as the Green Lanes but was disappointed by this, especially after a very long wait.

Really, really good show! Important & heavy issues approached with a lot of humour: my friends and I thoroughly enjoyed it and it gave us a lot to reflect on and talk about.

Brilliant play, extremely funny. No boring moments from start to finish and addressed current issues in a way that shouldn't upset anyone. All the actors performed equally well, especially as it was the opening night. Loved the compact set, thought it was very effective.

Special congratulations to Cosh Omar on his writing. I wouldn't hesitate to attend any future performances of his work. Hope there will be more!

Fantastic It was so funny had me in stitches

Loved it. So much content, you had to concentrate hard to keep up - as though Cosh Omar having decided to tackle some really difficult subjects, had to make sure he went at them from every angle, covered all posts - but it worked for me.

Too many Jesus Christs and some unnecessary over doing of the F word at times, but apart from that great script, great bunch of actors. I think the white guy might have a genuine heart attack if he goes at the role with that much gusto every night, but he was great. The lead Hassan - great comic acting; hijab-woman - fantastic acting and great character, loved the scripting around her role and how fantastic to see a be-hijabed woman on stage all night and so consistently challenging the stereotypes. Turkish dad - set out mumbling and a bit quiet, but once he got going he was fab. Camping up the tranny quite so much was a bit over the top obvious, but he was likable. I've recommended the production to friends - hope they go, it deserves success

It was very refreshing to be in such a mixed audience and to witness, join and feel comfortable to laugh at the universal issues the play tackled without fear of the pc police.

I attended the first night and for a first night, I felt the cast settled into their roles very quickly.

I think they need to have the confidence to pause and enjoy the audience laughter as I missed a few lines because the narrative continued through the laughter.

You need to change how you play the murder of the neighbour as he was so clearly breathing, it confused the audience.

I also think it would be better if the cast THOUGHT he was dead and the audience shared that ambiguity. The actor himself was excellent.

I just hope this play does not suffer the fate of England People very Nice at the review stage - since the capacity to laugh at the ridiculousness of racism is an important way through to a more comfortably diverse community.

I thoroughly enjoyed it - very funny and some serious modern day issues in there too!

FANTASTIC GREAT SHOW REALLY FUNNY WELL DONE

Excellent. Well written, performed. Hilarious. And not afraid to deal with issues in an entertaining but informative way.

In fact it was better than most of the plays I have seen in the west end. The subject matter which could have been highly controversial, did not appear to offend anyone in the audience because it was so well handled. The play humorously managed to look at the bigotry within most cultures without alienating any culture in particular. Very refreshing.

It was particularly nice as for one there was a varied mix of ages and ethnicities at the production, all Londoners rather than upper middle class or tourists as is usually found in the West End theatres.

The seats were excellent value for money. Such a good price (£8 for stalls) obviously does encourage people that would not normally attend the theatre to go.

Very funny and thought provoking, we enjoyed it immensely.

We had a great evening, it was a very enjoyable play. We laughed a lot. Though the political message/lesson behind it, is fully on my wave length, it felt a little too educational at some stages.

Excellent play, we really had a great time watching it, very current, brings a fresh view to the discussion about immigrants in GB. I am also migrant and the play gave me some new insights about the current problems, so called cultural clash and differences. Watching the play however I realized that we are not that different at all and the thing that can really unite people from different backgrounds is the sense of humour. And that is what I think the authors tried to show. Well done!

Enjoyed very much. Vigorous, very funny and sometimes thought provoking. Cast were superb. Quality of writing, excellent.

I thought the set was stunning and well used. Actors were great. Not so impressed with the script. I enjoyed the first half more. It was billed as a comedy, a satire, but I found the second half to be rather preachy and overly contrived.

I was very disappointed with the show as a whole. It made me laugh in the first half, but I felt that it simply used stereotypes and did nothing to challenge them - from the old chestnut of how awful marriage is to "has she got a mouth underneath that burka? It seemed that the playwright had simply picked up a load of stereotypes, thrown them up into the air and let them fall. There was no real plot or character development. I have no idea what the play was trying to say or where it was going. Not up to your usual standard at all.

It was very well acted and extremely funny.

There were some great comical moments and genuinely laugh out loud lines delivered. Set and costume design also good. The neighbour had particularly strong lines and easily gave the best performance. There were, however, some very weak aspects

- the opening first 15 mins were pretty dire. OTT acting performances, coupled with very strange direction for the opening scene (guy cowered at the bottom of the stairs as if homeless - better to be hiding under a blanket on the sofa?)

- it felt at times that the multi-cultural message was being rammed down our throats. Almost endless monologues imparting history lessons jarred with the faster pace of the farce. This was particularly the case with the solos by the police officer

- also, the cousin at the end added little as did the neighbour suddenly springing up.

In conclusion, not the best we've seen at TRSE but has great potential. Weak opening and ending but a great middle section. I hope this is helpful,

Brilliantly written. Very funny. Superb acting; timing was very good. I have recommended to friends and family that they should see this show.

We enjoyed it and thought it was thought provoking, the ending should have been with the Obama speech.

Enjoyable evening and audience was in the mood for it. Not very polished acting wise - which in part let it down, but also gave it charm and fitted the farce of it. Idea behind farce good and interesting cultural mix. made for good base. Some repetition in script which worked in some places but not others. ie okay about woman in black.

Turkish parents good, as well as Marigold, Mr Brown, Dave the builder, and PC.

Myself, my daughter, my grandson and my next-door neighbours all thoroughly enjoyed this performance last night.

Although there was a lot of swearing in the play it was all in context and none of us were in the least offended.

My local pharmacist asked if I'd bring her back a leaflet about the comedy, so she could see for herself what it was about, but disappointingly there were none to be had anywhere, although I did ask for one. I eventually printed something off the Internet for her but it wasn't the same.

But the comedy itself was very funny, although I had a niggling little feeling that some weak points were overplayed, and 'done to death', and some parts could have been made much funnier.

Last week we saw 'Ladies Day' at the Queens Theatre in Hornchurch, Essex, also billed as a comedy although there were hardly any laughs in it. I must repeat that we all thoroughly enjoyed last night at the Theatre Royal, it was a hundred times better than the 'comedy' at the Queens!

Hilariously lively and different! That is however, until 'Mr Brown' was banished behind the settee..

Very entertaining!

I hated the beginning, before the gay guy entered, I didn't think it was gripping and I found my mind wondering but as it progressed it was brilliant. I LOVED Mr Brown, he was so funny and I loved the way everything just kept getting funnier.

very good indeed would see again

great story very funny well acted the sort of things that happen in everyday life in England now be great if they all ended like this one with everyone walking away with a smile on their faces when is this guys next play 9/10 me wife and 15 year old son loved it he even made a comment about the play during sundays x factor

Very good show. Had a wonderful time with friends and work colleagues (5 of us from 5 different countries!) Very thought provoking. After the show we went for a drink at Theatre Royal bar. We got into an exciting and interesting discussion about the main themes tackled in the play i.e. celebrating diversity, accepting cultural, religious and social differences, living in harmony and being open minded. Getting to

know each other and avoiding judging people just by the way they look. Ignorance makes people feel scared, insecure and threatened.

Mr Brown was so convincing we were scared he might have a heart attack on stage!... Was very impressed by Sanjay's chest and legs. I'd like to get the name of his beautician!

Lots of great jokes which I look forward to sharing at work.

It's simply brilliant. The writer managed to blend a plethora of difficult social issues relevant to our local community and develop it into one of the most hilarious performances I've seen for some time.

Absolutely brilliant performance

It was alright.

Absolutely hilarious, a very enjoyable show and I would thoroughly recommend it to others.

Excellent, contemporary and hugely enjoyable play, performances were highly professional and characters portrayed with real flair. Subject matter was very relevant to today's issues of race, identity and 'Britishness', particularly in the melting-pot of culture and religion that is London.

Only issue I have is with the high level of profanity/swearing within the play. Whilst I didn't take offence at it myself whilst viewing the performance, I worry that perhaps some of the other audience members did. It would have been a good idea to put a cautionary warning on the play leaflet or on the web-site so audience members know what to expect.

I loved it. I'm no fan of farce, or shouty theatre, but I loved the way that the play subverted the genre. How it became more than just a comedy. It had big things to say! I also love how the local community is reflected in the audience and in the play. Amazing. Please keep on doing what you're doing.

The first half was very good, but the second seemed to drag near the end. It felt like they had too many messages to get across which diluted the plot of the play.

I thought the set was really good. I thought the play was funny and it addressed really good issues regarding multi-culturalism and how each culture deals with each other, the actors were good, Mr Brown was especially funny.

I felt that the play got stuck after the first half and didn't move on, I felt a bit bored in the second half.

I also felt some of the content was unrealistic/unbelievable, i.e. Mr Brown/the policeman just walking in to the house - the Mr Browns I know would DEFINITELY not be walking into their neighbour's house, esp with Mr Brown's views on foreigners.

If I had to give it marks out of 10, I would give it a 5.

It was a bit slow and far too long. I don't think it was so funny and a little too political. I would not recommend it

After a slowish start, the performance livened up considerably and there were some very amusing moments. The actors performed well and their diction was very clear.

Hugely entertaining. Thought it was well cast and a difficult subject to tackle. Thought it got a bit boring with the Muslim son keep repeating the same thing towards the end though.

A riotously funny and occasionally engaging play addressing taboos unexpectedly in a farcical framework. That's the plus side. The minus side was that it needs severe pruning - it gets dreadfully "preachy" at times: the "Joe Orton" style policeman was particularly poorly drawn; the hijab'ed sister could have been more amusing given a chance, but she banged on about muslim women's rights like a Guardian editorial; her sister was a cypher with little real character and too many words; her "conversion" to her marriage wasn't well prepared. "Mr Brown" similarly - though brilliantly acted - suddenly acquired a "back history" minutes before his death. In all these cases just a few phrases added earlier in the script would have solved the problems. The set and costumes were just brilliant - among the very classiest I've seen at Stratford East. Mostly good casting. Good storytelling direction. With a strong producer to pull it into shape maybe a West End hit. Well done yet again!

bRILLIANT!! Very funny, informative and thought provoking. The acting was superb.

Fantastic, really enjoyed the performance, this is a must see!!!!

The Great Extension is a great show and was very insightful, funny and educational. It was good value for money but bearing in mind, I paid the discounted price. I feel the full price ticket is slightly expensive and understand the theatre needs to make a profit.

I think it would be advantageous for the restaurant last service to be after the show has finished for those who would like to get a bite to eat.

All in all, very good.

Despite the seriousness of the underline message, it made me laugh so much.

Thanks for the brilliant show.

It was advertised as a comedy and that is what I got from it which was great. It also however touched on political issues and history which is no criticism but it did go over my head!!!

But it was still very enjoyable and I can't believe that my favourite character was the bigot Mr Brown, he was brilliant.

Absolutely brilliant. Extremely well written and the performances were great. Laughed almost all the way through. Topics that are taboo were handled with great care and humour. Well done!

I thought the show had some excellent one liners, the set was fabulous. However, I didn't particularly take to the show. I felt it was too long and could have been edited in parts.

I felt some of the gags had been around for ages and the play felt like it was lecturing the audience at times as well as educating.

Overall, it was entertaining in parts but I felt it told me nothing I did not know already, there was too much repetition and even for a farce some of the surprises were either obvious or unnecessary i.e. Jameelia being a stripper was obvious, this could be because the length of her coat exposed that she had bare legs something the majority of hijabis would not do. David being Jewish and the gags that followed were obvious and did not add much to the exploration of multiculturalism.

I felt the actors gave it their all and a credit to them.

Hilarious and fantastic acting

Very funny

Very well written and the actors played their parts very professionally. It was light hearted and topical. Thoroughly enjoyed the play. A very nice night out.

Great play had me in stitches

It was a great comedy with lots of real life issues and politics. I liked the way the play educated other on Islam. However I did find it too long and there was a lot of repetition of catch phrases.

Very good show.

Very funny in parts. Uncomfortable in others

Very funny and obviously appealed to a wide cross section of the community judging by audience reaction. Some characters were a bit stereotypical but that was probably intentional although it did make them seem slightly predictable and two dimensional but that did not spoil the overall feeling of a great show performed with vigour.

Entertaining, humorous and thought provoking: well acted too, especially "Mr Brown"!

great play, very funny, well produced. tackled issues that need tackling, but I assume it may well ruffle some feathers

all of the characters were terrific, they played their stereotypes to the hilt without being offensive and somehow remaining likeable, in my opinion.

maybe the lead in 'news report' was a bit long, that was one of my only reservations

Some great acting, although the central character was not always believable, especially at the beginning - he reminded me of Ron Weasley when he was crying.

It sometimes stated the obvious when it was not needed, it was as if it did not trust the audience to come to its own conclusions about prejudice. The play was weaker for this approach

Fantastic set

A bit slow to start, but after the first 20 mins I thought it was very funny, well acted and written , as well as very thought provoking.

The show was a tonic. Funny, good fun and at a time when everything is so pc these issues are skirted around. The show was brilliant!

Let's hope the pc brigade get on this for some publicity for the show

We thoroughly enjoyed it.

The actors were excellent and the play was brilliantly written.

I particularly liked the way that although the usual stereotypical rather extreme characters were included, other characters that the audience would probably see as being more like themselves were also there. This helped to polarise some of the more outlandish comments even more than might have otherwise been the case. It also gives the audience a better way of comparing their own views with those of the characters. This can lead to times when you find yourself feeling empathy for a character you might normally have considered extreme.

Very highly energetic and very enjoyable. A bit too didactic perhaps, some prejudices supposedly being overturned were drawn with a VERY large brush (woman with burqa as an advocate for education).

A lot of fun, played with great energy, good set design and some strong lines. The audience generally liked it or gave it the benefit of the doubt.

Criticisms: it's over-long in the second half and felt like it lost it's way a bit, sometimes too overt with the politics and trying to cover a lot of bases.

Was the copper an angel of some kind? He felt like an odd fit.

And I hate to say it but the "got married when drunk and the Mullah didn't ask any questions and I forgot all about it" really stretched credibility for me....

But! Really good and vital stuff.

It was funny, informative, hilarious, enjoying and very engaging all at once. I really enjoyed it and so did my younger siblings and my mother!

I have two points to make though:

1) I wish the play was a little longer so that we could see more development between Hassan and Jamelia at the end when they fall in love....

2) Hassan's drunken mother and cousin from Turkey all should have had more of a role to play.

All actors were excellent!

It was an enjoyable evening.

There were some really funny lines in the play, but the standard of the acting was fairly poor. The actors really need to modulate their voices for impact and expression, instead of shouting every line. Whilst I am aware that we watched a preview, it felt as though we were watching a fairly early rehearsal in terms of characterisation. The long lecture from the policeman in the second half ought to be cut or re-written.

Having said that, we paid Â£8 for live theatre, and laughed out loud quite a lot!

Very funny, with bite - it showed up a lot of prejudice for what it is. When David took off his Hard Hat to reveal the Tottenham Hotspur scull cap, it brought the theatre down. Highly entertaining - we have already recommended it to friends & Family.

disappointing, weak storyline and not enough content to keep up interest, people around me were yawning.

I liked the play very much as the characters were very engaging. I did think that the 'moral' of the story was slightly overdone though. I thought that the comedy was great and the boundaries pushed just enough so that it was funny without being offensive.

Not great, I felt it was corny, very unsubtle, ridiculous story, it seemed like a farce more than a comedy. Though my friend and I did not find it particularly funny. It reminded me of a poorly acted and scripted TV sit com from 30 years ago.

rather too much unnecessary swearing and blaspheming, some realistic acting and one rather wooden actor. I had hoped that it would be less obvious in its comedy - the second half improved the experience and we left feeling that it had been a satisfactory experience.

Was a great comedy play and me and my party of 4 thoroughly enjoyed the storyline.

My only negative comment (which we all agreed with) was that there was too much swearing in the play which on many occasions was perhaps not necessary.

But as always our experience at the Stratford East theatre was a pleasant and enjoyable one.

Original, thought-provoking. Brilliantly well interpreted characterisations from everyone. Some unexpected twists and turns in the plot kept my attention engaged.

I liked the way familiar, everyday experiences (and some less familiar!) were explored in deeper ways and found funny - even though sometimes in scary/uncomfortable ways.

I also liked the way the piece ended - clearly with the beginning of a new story.

*PS: I was so relieved to see that Mr Brown had not really died...

Extremely funny and very entertaining. A lot of inappropriate language was used. but it was definitely very amusing.

Loved it! We all did - 8 of us from work.

A lot of swearing, which is okay by me but a bit shocking to some.

Not much about the actual content in the adverts and a bit dark in the middle of second half - however we all laughed our sox off in the first half and latter part of second.

I thought it was great and so did all of my colleagues.

It was an enjoyable evenings entertainment.

There seemed to be an awful lot packed into one play. It was mostly funny but some speeches especially the policeman's was more like a political/religious rant which rendered the audience silent.

Very Funny.

Excellent - Topical, intelligent with some real laugh-out-loud moments

Very funny

Entertaining, funny and thought provoking. The script was well written and all the actors did an amazing job. I've recommended the play to everyone!

The acting was good and the play was enjoyable in parts and at times very funny.

I felt that the story was a bit too contrived in seeking to make its point and I really couldn't get the marriage.

I came along with six members of my team. We are health professionals in the community in Newham. We all thought the great extension was fantastic. Very powerful, thought provoking and incredibly funny.

One of those situations where you are made to feel really uncomfortable and put in the position when you don't know whether to laugh or not! That is a great achievement for the director and cast.

I had entered the competition and won 2 tickets to see the show. My partner and I really enjoyed the show and would like to see it again. We have recommended it to our friends too. It was an excellent performance.

Fantastic writing with some great subtext.

The cast were wonderful!

really enjoyed the play. acting was brilliant. especially the first part was really funny and the second part very thought provoking. I found the topic of the play extrimely interesting. we were grateful to be able to use the under-25 free ticket scheme.

Entertaining.

Nice set.

A bit noisy...a lot of arguing.

Same argument over and over...not subtle, we get the agenda!

Enjoyed the first half but second half dragged a bit.

Swearing didnt add anything to the character of Hassan...didnt really like him as a character. Loved the transgender guy.

Thought Aisha and her character was funny...liked the burka jokes.

Mr Brown...a bit too obvious when he mentioned Hitler.

Liked the Turkish cousin aat the end...want to see more of him!

Overall, did enjoy it and so did my mum...but she didnt like the shouting...too much of it.

I was pleasantly surprised and was not expecting anything like it was. Thoroughly enjoyed it and the performances were brilliant. Handled all the current issues very well.

Boring not funny. The set setting was brilliant.

Really funny and very well performed. It could have been advertised better in terms of the info that was given. I would deffinitely recommend it and think its one of the best ethnic play since east is east.

Booked blind after your promo mailing,I warmed to it, and came away thinking it was a good evening's entertainment.

It raised and said a lot of things that don't get out in open easily, using the vehicle of the different characters, and mostly got beyond stereotype, and was intereseting as two days later press was awash with BNP.

Please pass on thanks to all of cast but actor who played Sanjay was particularly good, and Turkish father.

Always refreshing to come to Stratford be part of a more reflective theatre audience.

Keep up the good work.

As a farce it was good. I think a couple of the characters could have been developed more and connection between some of the action was not clear.

But overall good and funny.

It was a great show, well thought and sent a good message to the audience. The mani character, Hassain was fantastic. It was also very funny, entertaining and would recommend it to anyone.

We found it very entertaining - very funny and very well acted. It was a most enjoyable night out.

Great. Very funny. Well acted and well written.

I really enjoyed it! The set was fantastic, clearly a lot of hard work had gone into designing and constructing it. The acting was terrific, and the play itself was both funny and thought-provoking.

I thought it was possibly the worst production I have ever seen at the Theatre Royal, in 35 years of regular theatre-going. How this one got past the first reading beats me! It was offensive drivel, to be honest. I shall certainly avoid any future productions that promise the same approach.

We enjoyed the show very much indeed.

We thought it very, very funny, and some of the points raised in the more serious section of the second half, particularly by the English neighbour, we thought very pertinent, particularly in the light of the BNP's appearance on the previous night's Question Time.

I didn't think that the swearing in the beginning added anything to the play, but it didn't spoil our enjoyment of what turned out to be an excellent evening.

We thought the acting was very good, as was the set.

I found it extremely entertaining, a strong cast and the issues addressed were very interesting.

I particularly liked that it managed to deal with its point.

At times the swearing became too much. The repeated lines were overused and started to lose their humour.

The lead character, Hasan, was over the top compared to the other actors, I think he needed to be more natural. But the writing was great.

Overall I would give it a 4 star, I had tears in my eyes from laughter and the characters were entertaining.

Great show - very entertaining and thought provoking!

My husband and I thought the performance was brilliant and we both thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. We were lucky enough to receive one of the free pairs of tickets you gave away. It was a performance I think we would not probably have chosen to attend had we not had free tickets. We journeyed from Cambridge to see this performance and normally we would want to know a little more about what we were going to see. ie large west end show. We were very pleasantly surprised and while working on a budget for a night out think we will look more closely at some of the shows and theatres on the periphery of London.

Thank you so much

It was a great night out.

Thought it was much better than I'd expected.

Maybe a little bit 'dated', the acting was very good.

I enjoyed and found the first half more entertaining than the second, which I felt seemed to drag on a bit.

A witty and intelligent show-congratulations both Kosh and Kerry who were supported by a really good actor- Jack Chissick in "Mr Brown"-loved both the character and the actor!

Multiculturalism is a difficult issue to grapple with sensitively but the team managed to deal with it brilliantly. At times it felt that too much was crammed in: too much Islamic terminology was stuffed in as Cosh tried a bit too much to prove his authoritative knowledge about his subject (what second generation migrant writers do sometimes). As a Muslim I was worried that I will be served the usual jokes about hijab etc but I am glad to say that I was pleasantly surprised. Well done to TRS and to all involved.

As a professional journalist writing for the Arabic press in London (APTN, Al-Hayat, Nile TV etc) I hope I will write a piece or mention Great Extension in Middle Eastern press-If only to counteract the somewhat negative review written by the like of my friend Dominic Cavendish in the Telegraph.

Thank you very much for the free ticket offer to watch 'The Great Extension'.

The Actors were outstanding ('so much stamina, skills and high standards of performances throughout the duration of the show; night after night') The best show I have seen this year because watching 'The Great Extension' was like unravelling a gift and inside the box was an abundance of different thought processes... The show teaches a valuable lesson about the generation and its different point of views in a hilarious and witty way. 'Got me thinking even more positive' about people living in Britain today', So grateful Cosh Omar shared his gift with us. Took home an assortment of great experiences about Multi cultural Britain. Highly recommended. 'This show should be on the Tv!

Very good, could identify with the issues that was brought forth in the play, only downfall is the amount of swearing which is not necessary. Other than that very good play.

Very well written play - thought provoking, good dialogues, humourous yet serious, and really realistic. Excellently presented in terms of acting performances, sound effects, set, props

A witty well paced farce. It brought the genre back up to date and was well received by the audience. The script was clever and the actors showed real skill. It was a totally enjoyable night full of laughter.

Very funny - a great night out. Well done.

I'm afraid farce is not for me.

The movie was very funny but also raised many important questions. Shame that the ending wasn't that positive and hopeful...

The actors were great, maybe the main character was a little too much.

Interesting. Thought provoking and funny at times. A little long in places !

It was a mixed experience, really. On the positive side, it was pretty high-energy (so it lived up to it's tag of being a comedy farce), everyone acted very well and there were some killer lines!! The actors really got under the skin of the characters they were playing which helped it to be realistic despite the farcical nature of the play. On the other hand, it took a while to get going at the beginning (the questioning of Hassan by Sanjay to find out what had happened the previous night was a tad too long) and there were parts within the play when the grip seemed to loosen a little bit (the police officer's dialogues could have been more short and punchy to get the message home). But overall, a valiant effort and a well-structured play!

Thank you it was a great experience :)

Very interesting. It addressed nearly all possible prejudices.

Enjoyed the show very much.

I thought it was well acted and not afraid to tackle racism issues head on, so a brave play to put on. What I think might have spoilt it for people (or for me anyway) was the very end. Was it the right message to give out for the white British male to mutter "and they call themselves British", or whatever it was he said, as he left the stage? If the point of the play was to show that everyone in Britain can call themselves 'British', no matter what race, creed or colour they are, I am not sure what message this ending gave out. Otherwise the play had been great but this ending rather confused the issue and I reckon meant the actors did not get quite the resounding applause they deserved either.

Entertaining and topical play.

I thought it was very entertaining and thought

provoking the actors were superb especially Raj Ghatak and the man who played Mr Brown infuriating!

The show was BRILLIANT!!!!

Best i ever seen,i had great fun and laugh.

Finally some one showed us what is going on in our religious world.

GREAT SHOW!!!

A couple of lame jokes, and the ending could've been a bit tighter, but otherwise an enjoyable multicultural romp. Good performances. Loved Mr Brown - "But it looks Islamic!"

Very funny and very topical.

The play was fantastic- not only did it allow you to laugh at yourself,but it also confronted some of the problems "young muslims face being brought up in the UK". In fact it enabled us to view the challenges of'multiculturalism' with ease and openness. The humour/wit gave the play a human quality, opening a platform for discussion.There was some discussion looking at the different levels of integrations/acceptance and the element of belonging,(through the soliloquy of a couple of the characters).

Thoroughly enjoyable and enlightening.

I didn't enjoy the first half hour, but then it warmed up and I liked it a lot. A very funny, risky play.

Good in parts, a bit amateurish in others. The point was too laboured at times, which detracted from the humour.

Interesting topics,but unfortunately handled in a superficial and clumsy manner. The characters were cliched and stereotyped,expressing themselves in a way which was reminiscent of the worst examples of a 1970's sitcom i.e.'Love thy neighbour'. We felt that the play was insulting to our intelligence, and consequently we did not return for the second half.

It has great potential but I feel it needs a major edit and reworking before it goes further.

The comedy was good - the performances very strong, and so exciting to see an ethnically diverse cast on stage - I know this is part of your casting policy and I really appreciate and enjoy it.

There was too much 'historical' back story thrust in at times about different muslim factions/brotherhoods - after being given this info a few times, I thought 'ok, I get this now!'

Burka character - a little forced. I suspect this was the point, female in burka needs to be 'larger than life', but it felt desperately stereotyped. Possibly accent didn't help - great range of northern accents!

Set good - although sight lines limited if you're in the 4 seats at the end of each row - which is frustrating but inevitable I guess. It said in the box office that the performance ended at 9.30pm, but I think it was an extra 30 mins longer - and that need

I thought it was a good play that dealt with very serious issues we encounter while living in a multi-cultural society in the UK. It used humour to get the message across to the audience entertaining us at the same time. I liked it and would recommend it to my friends.

The show was very good enjoyed it a lot and laughed out loud.

Show was full of good gags. It was a real good laugh. Actors very slick. My favourite character was the mother, who didn't even need to say a word to be funny. Far too much swearing - most of it wasn't necessary to make the show funny.

overall ok, but did think it sailed a bit close to the wind with swearing & overtly racist comments, i appreciate it was a farce, but at times i couldn't help thinking somebody thought this up & wrote it, and it was uncomfortable at times

also, i think a warning about this would of been good as it did come as a shock in parts, not a complaint, just a bit of comment

I thought the show dealt fabulously with heavy issues in an environment and manner that made taboo topics accessible to everyone in the audience. So much to analyze and consider! It was incredible and I am going to recommend it to all of my friends.

We thought it was very funny and dealt with some difficult and topical issues in a non offensive manner. There were people from a range of different ethnic communities and all seemed to thoroughly enjoy the performance.

Great fun! If anything over written, but with so many ideas competing for space that's only a little problem. Vibrant, immediate play, a celebration of our need to be brave enough to laugh at ourselves; whilst enjoying the multi culturalism of modern Britain. PC Obama - nice touch!

loved the show very funny and the set was great as always.

superb! was looking to go to the west end but decided to stay local, was worth it, small, intimate environment, real value for money. the play was brilliant, excellent writing, witty but thought provoking, tackled major issues!

The play was great. We came to support a friend in the cast primarily but thoroughly enjoyed the performances of all the casts. Topically yet cleverly comical - a great hit!

I thought it was very thought provoking, funny, well written and very well acted - particularly by the lead actor.

I thought overall it was a very inspirational play because of its moral. I thought obviously it was funny but on a serious level dealt with some really important issues of this recent climate.

And that's the type of theatre I'm loving seeing. It's what the world needs to see in order to make a change. The actors did a lovely job. The set was really beautiful, well done. And well done to the whole great extension team! You made my night wonderful. Thank you

A good play, was probably 10 mins longer than it needed to be.

The Turkish mother character was not really needed in the story and could easily have been referred to rather than shown.

The actor playing Mr Brown was very good and had some very challenging lines to deliver and was very convincing.

The set was very good and seemed to work well for the play.

The builders reveal was superb and was unexpected.

Interesting presentation of important issues. Good comedy but felt that sometimes the production veered too much towards being farcical rather than comedic, so was a bit OTT.

Loved the set as it gave the production great scope for movement and added flow to the show.

All actors projected well so you could hear what was being said. Perhaps the stereotyping could be a little more subtle?

Lovely theatre - my first visit, but PLEASE let people in to their seats a little earlier.

Front row of circle is excruciatingly uncomfortable and should come with a health warning. If you are over 5' 4" you cannot even move your knees!

This was a great play that allowed some of our taboo subjects to be explored with insight and hilarity. It's so good to laugh at ourselves in this day and age. Well done.

I attend the plays at the Theatre Royal because they are signed. I rely on the signing to a large extent as I have a low frequency hearing loss and often miss parts of what is said.

The signer you use is excellent and gives not only the meaning in sign but with facial expression that enhances the performance. Well done Stratford for providing good plays and allowing those with a hearing loss to access them so well.

It was truly fantastic, had me and my mother laughing till our sides hurt, haven't seen a play that has made me laugh in ages, a breath of fresh air, it was true to life, how Britain has now become multi-cultural, I'm sure everyone that has seen it can relate to one or more of the characters I know we did, great show....should be at the West End, well done to the actors that were all very convincing in their parts....loved it from start to finish.

My friend and I enjoyed the performance very much indeed. In spite of the seriousness of the issues raised it was very, very funny - very well written. We have enjoyed both plays by Cosh Omar. Actors

played their parts well and it didn't matter at all that it was a bit over the top. It was just what we needed to brighten us up at the end of the week.

brilliant, really great, me and my wife enjoyed it very much, highly recommend to others

Entertaining, quite funny, too much swearing, main character Hasan not a very good actor, the racist neighbours was very convincing, liked all the different cultures coming together which made it comical (all the prejudices) it became clear that none of the people understood the other's culture and had an opinion based on stereotypes.

I thought it very funny but also had many messages for our attitudes to minority groups in today's society. Food for thought. well acted.

Pity there wasn't more people in the audience.

really good

First twenty minutes or so were slow and repetitive with unsophisticated dialogue. thought this scene setting should be only a third of the time. After that the story and humour developed so at the end I thought it was very good. Weak point was some of the history lessons were out of place might have been better with a narrator. The dialogue between Hassan Elder and the girl's brother was difficult to follow.

Some brilliant lines and pertinent observations.

Too much shouting - it's a small theatre, the actors could use more nuance in their delivery and still be clearly heard and this would give more depth to the performances.

I enjoyed it, it was well written with a good twist towards the end, and a good bringing together of different religious views.

It was a little bit long however, may have benefited from being 15-20 minutes shorter, with possibly a reduction in characters or repetitive dialogue.

My wife is Turkish and says the main character (the author) is not reflective of Turkish men, but his father was the exact stereotype.

I enjoyed the performance greatly.

It was a thought provoking play. I wonder if all the 'bad' language was necessary.

a wonderful professional production, very smart, very funny and great set design.

I had not realised that the Comedy would be a 'Farce'. I did not enjoy the play but to be fair this was mainly due to my not appreciating the form.

Overall the acting was great from all of the actors.

At first i wasn't too sure what to make of some of the comments on the script... whether to be offended or not !!!

However taking a step back and being able to see unfortunately that there are still some minorities that think like that.

An excellent play which was not afraid to see the absurdity in all religions whilst not dismissing any of them out of hand. Very funny, well acted, good sets.

This play was perfect for Stratford Theatre royal and I hope attendances were better than the night we attended.

I don't think the play would travel well to everywhere in Britain as the humour is best appreciated if one has experience of multicultural societies such as Newham.

funny but I also learned about other cultures

Quite good...too much unnecessary swearing for my taste...not sure that it is a play that will have a long shelf life though.

felt as though I was watching amateur dramatics

I thought it was as described in the reviews. Good, though it dragged on a little at times but apart from that... overall i thought it was an excellent way of tackling the topics which were dealt with in the play...

Funny and insightful

The first act was enjoyable, but the second act was a real let-down. It felt like now all the characters were on stage, there was no clear idea of what to do with them. The use of the policeman and his speeches (verging on the preachy) was incongruous, and the need to add another character to attempt to explain and synthesise the many strands to the story felt laboured and lazy. The ending was quite unsatisfactory.

Given all that, on the plus side the cast gave a strong ensemble performance. The high level of shouting established in the first act did feel like it hemmed the actors in, as they were left with little to do but yell louder to make their points. The stand out performances were Sanjay and Aisha

I guess that the play did stimulate to discuss the issues, but failed to have any major impact, or to last long in the memory

it was eclectic and diverse, and i like material which addresses minority issues, however, in the second half of the play, the policeman character was an overly simplistic lecture on the history of islam, and the characters just seemed to shout each other down!!

my partner suggested that this might have been the first play that the playwright had written?

overall, probably one of the weaker scripts i've seen acted out at Theatre Royal

good cast, well acted and amazing set though!!

great play. Acting was of a high standard.

Very entertaining.

The idea was a great one - to write a modern farce about multicultural Britain, but I didn't think it really worked. The play was very wordy when the set seemed to be designed for a much more physical kind of theatre. Long speeches about the history of different muslim traditions yet the audience seemed to react most when the characters were chasing each other around and throwing books! Didn't get the connection with the entry of Turkey into the EU, which was set up at the start and then forgotten. The 'murder' of the racist white character just seemed plain wrong - no-one really cared about what had just happened and it didn't have any implications for the plot. I know it's unfair, but I kept wondering what Joe Orton would have made out of a dead body, two feuding families and a policeman on the same stage.

The Great Extension is a great idea, but it needs development. The audience need to care about characters who act like mouthpieces for the author's opinions.

to be honest, it was just okay, did not really enjoy it. my wife feels the same.

I really enjoyed the show. It made me laugh a lot, I thought the subject matter was relevant and interesting. I thought the set was fantastic. I thought that one of the actors over-acted a bit but generally I really liked the performances.

We unfortunately arrived late, as we had been completely misled by the rail replacement service. So, we missed the opening and first 15 mins of the play, and I was not in the frame of mind I would have liked. However, it was clear enough what the opening would have been.

The topic was interesting, and it is important that there is discussion not just of the obvious, large issues of difference, but how there are differences within religious and cultural groups of finer distinctions, just as there are in any family.

It did feel rather as if we were transported to the 1960/70s type of comedies of manners, even though a different topic. It was unfortunate that the 'corpse' was breathing heavily after the chase and struggle. I would be interested in a more risky plot - to face the challenge of a black comedy, without taking the safe escape of the neighbour getting up and walking home.

Enjoyable.

It was an ok performance, but not really to my taste

Really interesting and great idea!

I thought it was a very clever performance with the use of different cultures interacting with each other and expressing their viewpoints of life which can really relate to an audience member.

Really disappointed - saw Battle of Green Lanes but thought this play was poor. Too much preaching, so many long speeches, repetitions, particularly of fucking hell etc. Boring. Good idea but play lacked balance, there was little pathos, which is important for any decent comedy. For example, Mr Brown as an 'Alf Garnet' type could have had some sympathy, even as a bigot, but didn't and most of the time was just loud and stupid, as was Hassan. As a farce it didn't really work and I felt sorry for the cast who tried hard. It was a bit like attending a strange seminar about multiculturalism (maybe this was the objective). And why couldn't the author have developed Mrs Hassan - why was she just drunk and incapable? Where was her voice? Everybody else had one. Very stereotyped characterisations, but not cynical or objective.

Good set though.

Interesting play, good to tackle a difficult subject.

We enjoyed it

The play informative, whilst complemented with humour, which made it an enjoyable performance to watch. The energy on stage was admirable, and when conversing with members of the audience afterwards, we all shared the same views on the show being brilliant.

Excellent play, a good mix between examination of very weighty themes and the humor that inevitably accompanies it.

wonderful and witty, the storyline fantastic and characters so true to life would definitely recommend it

Excellent, witty, touched on serious subjects in a comic way, but still got the message across. Well done

Great script, interesting points of view, very intelligent. Very funny in parts and shocking in others. Definitely worth seeing.

Excellent at portraying the absurdity of stereotypes; very funny and refreshing. Would like to see more theatre like it.

I loved it.

I always know that plays put on at Stratford will be thought provoking and clever, and this was no exception.

I would highly recommend it.

I really enjoyed the question and answer session after the show as well.

funny, lots of messages it was trying to get across, possibly too much? but that is how peoples lives are with so many messages. the whole group I went with enjoyed it and it did provoke lots of discussions after and about beingbritish and what we all thought that meant

It was really good.

It was interesting, very entertaining. My Partner and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, it gave two sides to the argument and provided an Insight into Islam which was great.

BRILLIANT

It was okay - I was a bit disappointed after reading some positive press reviews, to be honest. I thought the comedy was very broad, and the pace was quite slow for a farce - lots of lengthy periods of people standing around discussing. I also thought the various racial/religious stereotypes were a bit disappointing - I understand that that's the point of the play, but I didn't think it did anything to challenge anyone's prejudices or pre-formed opinions about race or religion. I thought some of the characters were simply a bit of a waste - the transsexual houseboy could have had some hilarious lines, but seemed to get most of his comedy from simply mincing around. I was hoping for something that would make me think as well as make me laugh, and it didn't do either very much.

It was very good, highly entertaining, tough-provoking and funny at the same time. Very much in the best traditions of farce.

daring

thought provoking

challenging

funny

adding a fresh, modern, relevant element to traditional theatre

great to bring together people of different cultures in the audience and get us to laugh at ourselves

Funny, thought provoking, well played and well written and we all enjoyed the whole evening but the production made us so grateful for reminding us all for the enriching experience of living in a multicultural, multiethnic and vibrant city such as London. My partner and I are both teachers and my daughter is studying Drama and Physical Theatre at university and we will return to Stratford East because we found the place and people so welcoming and friendly.

Cosh Omar has considerable talent both as a writer and a performer and the whole cast were all convincing in their stereotyped roles. Well done everyone.

hilarious and yet very much current on political/reglious issues. Perfectly done.

I thought it was an excellent show. I found it hilarious and very, very clever

The only criticism or comment I would have would be the level of swearing - the opening scene in particular had a bit too much swearing as well as sexual refernces were a bit too much (however, it might of been the fact that I was with my dad that made it uncomfortable as I know it made him extremely uncomfortable!)

Apart from that it was great and my whole family enjoyed it.

good

Put simply I loved it, recommend it to friends.

it was funny, informative and had a great feel to it.

I really, really enjoyed the show - despite the fact that I was completely knackered when I saw it. The first 10-15 minutes were a bit slow, but once the ensemble work set in, it was sparks and fireworks. The actors seemed all very passionate about the project. There were differences in acting style, but that is nearly inevitable. But there were several actors whom I "believed" 100%, especially Jacob Krichefski/David, Faraz Ayub/Abdul, Amerjit Deu/Amid, Sharona Sassoon, Ruby Visaria - and, despite having a non-speaking role, Carol Been is still putting a big smile on my face! The set was stunning as usual. Lighting and sound more than appropriate. The blocking was very good I thought. And I really appreciated the message that this play sends out: It's the year 2009, the world is colourful - get over it!

All in all - wonderful!

Can't wait to see the panto now!

I really liked it. I thought it was very relevant and funny.

The end was a little bit strange, i.e. not quite sure how it ended.

We enjoyed very much in any case.

Liked the concept, enjoyed the show, but found some of the performance too one-paced. Needs to start on a lower key so it has smewhere to go. Production didn't quite seem to know if it was a farce or not?

My girlfriend and I thoroughly enjoyed the show, I think she found it funnier than I, probably because she has experienced more racial bigotry than I have.

I loved the set and the performance was most entertaining and professionally delivered.

We left after the first act, which probably says all you need to know about how we felt about it. However, although we did not find it funny, we were very much in the minority and it was very much appreciated by the people around us. Without sounding unbearably pompous, it just seemed to be full of rather predictable stock characters and packed to the gills with gags that did not allow for a more sophisticated approach to the subject.

Worth coming to see.

Suitable for the time.

Actors were very good.

Excellent, well acted, very funny, something for everyone. A lesson to every bigot of whatever race. I would like to bet that we are all guilty.

A very funny, well acted play with keenly observed characters. You sort of felt that you had met these people in the community. I liked the way it brought out the prejudices between communities and genders in a way that was non-threatening.

Fabulous, great fun, wish I attended the Battle of Green Lanes. Hope you will revive soon.

Some interesting concepts explored though a high level of farce and perhaps some clumsy timing.

The characters seemed rather stereotypical and it was rather heavy-handed. Felt that the Battle of Green Lanes was a more interesting take.

On a pure theatre perspective there is little to recommend this show: the acting styles, though adequately professional, were disparate and just because it is farce does not mean that the plot may be thin to the point of non-existent, nor does it mean that the script should deny any chance of empathy for the characters. However the superficiality did allow all sorts of comments to be made that simply could not be mentioned anywhere else and for no offense to be taken or given. The chance to laugh at major issues and for us all to do that together is one that I could never decry.

Love every second of the show.

Shame the students were so loud but at the same time that did add atmosphere.

Amazing show!! loved it!!

Great fun and memorable. We still remember Cosh Omar's first show at the theatre.

Enjoyed it very much. It presents its thoughts about serious issues in the shape of a classic farce and handles that form well, which is not easy. I have a weakness for those and know what it takes. While it was clearly on the side of tolerance and a multicultural Britain, it didn't get simplistic or preachy. Poor Mr. Brown. He became the butt of everyone's frustration, and even though he was sort of the bad guy, he was so clearly in the minority as the only guy who was not a minority, that you felt a little for him, especially when they all jumped him. Just one of many nice metaphorical situations in the play. I'm glad he came away with his life, because he was kind of cuddly in his nastiness. Great casting and great stage set as well. I just moved here, wasn't familiar with the theatre and came on the strength of the Time Out review. I thought, why not give it a try and I'm glad I did. Will recommend you.

Didn't like the blasphemy against our Lord Jesus Christ and the swearing. Otherwise I loved the young highly responsive audience, the Islamic subject matter was a bit too stereotypical but a start.

I believe this subject matter is the way forward and would like to see more of it.

An excellent production, both funny and thought provoking. Also managed to make fun of every stereotype going. A great night out.

At last a play that is funny and addresses the whole multicultural debate and allows all races creeds to make jokes about each other without any of this pc rubbish that is hampering so much creativity and playwrighting these days.

Whilst I felt the play could have gone even further...more faydeau exits and entrances it was a belter of an evening and I laughed and laughed.

Well done Stratford East a positive pleasure as ever attending your theatre. Great curry too.

Looking forward to my next visit. Thank you.

Enjoyed the multi cultural and racial theme(s), I believe media like this can go a long way in helping to bridge racial gaps. The comedy was good, maybe some of the punch lines needed a bit of a thump, i.e. more emphatically obvious (I can be a bit slow) with more attention to timing.

I think the venue is brilliant, cosy old world theatre that you do not realise is there until you walk through the doors.

Very good. Reasily funny for nearly all of the time, haven't laughed so much at the theatre for a good while. Once or twice a character got a bit too 'polemic' for a little too long but on the whole it was an excellent play very well acted.

It was a good play, well acted with an interesting story line.

I enjoyed the play very much.

With the BNP, Islamism and the debate about the multicultural society very much in the news it's great to have a play like this that's current and

deals with controversial subjects yet which manages to draw humour out of them.

Much more interesting than "England People Very Nice" at the National. And much funnier.

Very funny - a very British comedy with a twist!

Fabulous performance. Clever and funny.

Having a coach full of screaming very excitable 15 year olds from plashet school on the evening I went to see it turned it into a bit of a panto. But got used to that by second half and overall enjoyed the show.

Didn't think the structure of the play was very good as you had to sit through long radio broadcast twice as well as long speeches. Characters were walking stereotypes spouting questionable history, and the

Christian character's 'murder' was a brutal shock in the middle of a comic? farce. The characters trooped on and off stage without much reason and acted without real motive.

It was good that on the night we went (Thursday) there was a big school group of girls who were obviously relating to the play. But it would have been good to have a more thoughtful play for them.

Very amusing due in part to excellent timing by the actors and good depth of subject matter to make you think. First class.

I found it funny, witty, well written.

It was a fascinating storyline with great jokes and acting.

The play had a great message that was completely obscured by the blasphemy (which I found offensive) and swearing.

On the whole loved the play and found it quite amusing. However, my four companions and I found the excessive swearing quite unnecessary.

I thought it was extremely funny and very entertaining. Never a dull moment. I also think the acting was a little too hammed up and could have benefitted from lightly more subtlety. It also began to shape into a soapbox tirade, which I think was unnecessary as the messages the play was striving to bring across were clear. Maybe too much swearing, though the timing of most of the actors made this funny at times.

Overall a truly enjoyable play, well done Cosh! Wish I could have seen 'Battle of Green Lanes' too.

Excellent play - a little too much swearing, but it was mostly in context of the production.

Would recommend to others.

It was very good

Very funny but think some people might find the high incidence of swearing and sexual references offensive. I enjoyed it much more than I expected to and so did my partner.

I enjoyed it mainly because I had two friends acting in it. BUT it needed quite a lot of editing. It is a great idea and a lot of the time it was spot on but often it just went a bit haywire and lost the plot. I think this is possibly the deepseated problem of a writer acting in their own play - can't see the wood for the trees.

With a bit of a tweak it could be a really ace play.

I loved the set and thought the cast was great.

It was great, witty and funny and touching on today's issues relating to clashes of culture, identity and immigration.

Loved it. The show was brilliant, but was even more astounding and an absolute wonder was the diversity of the crowd in the bar and in the audience of the play. Absolutely fantastic. Will be back at your theatre again!

Interesting and funny in parts but too often resembled run of the mill sit coms, including character tag lines, and at times appeared to be more soapbox about religious tolerance than drama. Although people I went with enjoyed it more.

Quite funny..a little predictable, but good cast and good writing..good to see theatre royal continuing to showcase ethnic talent.

really enjoyed it. Liked the theme but couldn't understand the role of the transvestite/gender chap. Maid or flatmate or lover of Hassan? Appeared to be all. Also felt the ending for the Sanjay was put in to tie up loose ends- so no real development of the character!

On the whole good and quite funny. The bigot was good!

Very good indeed, attended the last night and wished I had come earlier so that I could have sent my theatre going friends.

Excellent...

The builder's clothes should have been dirty !! He didn't 'feel' like a builder.....(said as an ex - builder)

I really enjoyed it, I thought it was both fun and thought provoking.

Enjoyed it very much, finding the opening few minutes the only disappointment with this play. The radio announcement went on for too long and got boring.

Apart from that, a great play and very East End. We also enjoyed the fact that the audience was very mixed, culturally.

Actually thought it was very funny, I wasn't sure about it in the beginning and the use of profanity jarred as it was a little overused, particularly in the early part of the play. I'm no prude and I'm aware that it is a farce but it seemed a bit laboured.

I actually do wish I saw it earlier during its run I would've recommended it to others. It got its point across about the futility of racism, tolerance, prejudice, generation gap all the bullet points were there.

The speech by the policeman towards the end probably went on a little too long but I've bought the programme so I'll read the entire thing again.

I'll be interested to see if it joins the ranks of '5 Guys', 'Harder They Come' (which I couldn't get tickets for) and transfer to West End.

It was great, really funny, the first half was better as the second half was good, but dragged a little. The suspense was great from the leading actor who played the character 'Hasan'

I enjoyed the performance, but ended up feeling that the play could have benefited from rather more work on the script before the performance started. Some scenes (e.g. the scenes with the policeman, Aisha's big speech) ended up substituting exposition and rhetoric for dramatic action. This was a shame as the play had great promise.

Great fun with many moving moments also, perhaps the pace dropped a bit and while I like ambiguous endings this one was a little anti-climactic.

In the style of a farce very entertaining and quite refreshing to be so politically incorrect. We were a group of mixed religions but all enjoyed it.

poor stereotypical and repeated jokes with no new fresh material

we booked to see the show at the very last moment not knowing anything about it.what a great surprise we laughed from the beginning to the final curtain.

The play showed courage in taking on some very big taboos in a very humorous way.

A lot packed into the two hours. Very funny, clever, thought provoking, excellent casting and performances. Enjoyed the play a lot.

Really funny and entertaining. Really good at raising some pertinent issues in a clever, simply way. A little preachy in 2nd half with long speeches, but informative. Good acting - some characters were excellent actors.

I and my wife were lucky enough to see the Great Extension on its last night. It was brilliant entertainment and up to the best standards of Theatre Royal's productions. We both enjoyed Omah's first play The Battle of Green Lanes.

Sadly the the publicity locally (we live in Highams Park, Waltham Forest and Stratford East is our "local" theatre) was insufficient, and I think many more people would have come and enjoyed the play if they had seen the preview interview with Cosh Omar and which I only read today for the first time. This excellent piece leading the 15th October Freetime section written by Kate Sole caught the mood well. The local WF Guardian didn't put its review in the printed paid for paper, nor any small notices saying the play was on, in subsequent issues though Kate's excellent review (5/11/09) is on the web, as is the also good review by the National Guardian Lyn Gardner 28/10/09.

I hope Stratford East will improve its publicity, and continue its successes.

I am afraid I was jet-lagged having not long returned from Australia and I could not stay awake. I was uncomfortable, too hot, and my head kept on nodding backwards as the seat sloped back. It was not possible to nod off forwards!

I did not like the play. I could not see the point of it. People seemed to laugh at things which are very serious issues and I could not find anything amusing.

The story: well I couldn't figure it out - it seemed to make no sense.

Sorry - I usually enjoy everything at S.T.R. but not this. I actually do not imagine that even if I had been in a better state I would have enjoyed it.

What was it all about? What was the point it was making? Charicatures and stereotypes. Neither a serious play nor a funny one. It was just loud.

Excellent balance of humour and thought provoking insight. Not afraid to tell it as it is.warts and all.Bloody funny too!!

Very good. I liked the way it was so ethnic, I've not seen a play like that before.

Overall I thought it was very funny. However, at the beginning, some of the actors' acting skills came across as a little "wooden"...suspension of disbelief was made harder because of this, as it was too obvious they were just playing a part.

Brilliant! I thought it did a wonderful job of being really funny and seriously thought-provoking. There's some very detailed information in here about different kinds of identity (e.g. Salafi vs Wahhabi) as well as some hilarious caricature, e.g. the excellent Mr Brown, who managed to be both ridiculous and engaging at the same time. I think the play is hugely relevant to current debates, and I hope it goes on to a wider audience!

Liked its ambition - handling taboo-ish subject and doing so with humour. Bit one-toned (shouty). Good characters, my nieces 15 - 23 liked it without being blown away.

I enjoyed the show. I found it more amusing than my wife but I felt it tried to impart too much on the religions and not enough on the plot. I learnt about the different cultures but I felt it was too much and got in the way of the story.

My wife was not as amused and found it boring and not funny. (I did) still you cant please everone.

The transgender person kept the show together and I hope he will not throw his shoes at me. Roger was a typical fuddy duddy and his red faced acting helped to convince us of his genuine annoyance.

The wife knocking back the booze and trying to undo her shoes was a moment is she or is she not going to make it. She should have had more of a say in the conversations as a proper alcoholic would have and possibly got it a little mixed up to add to the confusion.

In all the show was put together well but I did not believe the local bobby would have joined in as he did.

The Hassan / Hassan was clever and funny. In all I would see it again. 8/10

Honestly, I found the SUBJECT of the play to be mentally stimulating, and perhaps the work itself bordered on the "culturally important" level. It may have resonated deeply with racists or Islamic residents, with its talk of traditions and nationalism and allegiances. However, the SCRIPT was in

desperate need of editing, and as a result the play stumbled along to its unsatisfying end. There should have been no interval. If I had not brought an out of town guest to the show who seemed to enjoy the performance I would have left at the interval. That said, the PERFORMERS executed their parts to the extent that the script afforded them brilliance. That is to say, none were brilliant. Tell me, why was there an interval? To give the audience time to drink booze so to enjoy the show more? Also, improve the "funny" or darken the mood. Oy.

EXCELLENT SHOW - MORE OF THE SAME PLEASE

I did not like the long diatribes about religious history or the role of women in Islam, they were too long, too serious, and jarred with the humour. The topics of Sufism, Wahabi and Salahi were too complex. The points the author was trying to make were aboured and I felt I was being lectured to. It was like a history lesson disguised as a play.

I felt the characters were one dimensional and stereotypical. I particularly disliked the Mr Brown character and I felt that to describe him as 'Very English' in the description on the website was extremely offensive given the fact that he was so unpleasant, foulmouthed, expressed hate for foreigners and prapraise for Hitler. I felt offended that there were no English people portrayed in a positive light.

My Muslim friend was angry about the arranged marriage storyline, which she said was stereotypical and outdated. I prefer the humour of the Rifco Arts & Shazia Mirza, who deal with cultural/religious issues in a way which is very funny

Brilliant ! This production adressed so many of the bigotted attitudes so prevelant in some areas of our society, and without being too heavy handed got the message home with a bang , and more importantly with a laugh. A thoroughly entertaining and enjoyable evening.

Magnificent Set !

I thought it was really interesting, it raised lots of issues about multiculturalism, being the children of immigrants, white british attitude towards islam. It was also very funny, which was nice as it mixed serious points with humour. There was a bit too much swearing at the start of the play, the f word seemed to be used for no real reason. I particularly liked the young female muslim characters as they made me think about my own attitude towards women wearing the niqab.

I thought that the serious political points were mixed in well with the humour and the "story", the only character which was a bit of a mouthpiece rather than a character was the policeman.

A daring idea to challenge the almost untouchable subject of religious differences...but for me the style was rather too much of a farce to engage me.

Terrific individual performances, but a somewhat flawed play.

I think it needed an editor.

A good play but too conscious of its own humor - it tried too hard. Panto-mimic if you will.

Set was quite stunning - never seen anything so lush at Stratford before. But i felt that the characters were forcefully 2d, and unrealistic (sadly the naturalistic set only emphasized this).

Why, for example, did the Sanjay (the transgender character) need to be offered a happy ending?

Why did the Policeman exist at all - with his unnecessary self-referential smug commentary?

On a textual level -why did David keep saying 'such a pretty name', or Hassan keep saying 'Bloody/Fucking hell!'

You see what i mean?

The audience loved the show - i loved the show - but i think the text played down to the crowd. It was all too self-conscious and over compensating for his subject by ramming the comedy down your throat. Subtle it was not.

The Stratford East crowd of all crowds can take serious debate about race, religion and gender - so lets have it!

IT was EXCELLENT!

very profesional actors, thought provoking play, funny,

Extremely funny, pleasantly surprised as was'nt too sure what to expect, but an extremely well written script, the acting was good too! An enjoyable evening which will help towards one of my projects as a theatre/film student.

It was great, very interesting .