



## ASPIRE Intern Blog #8

'The Rise of Bozz' closed on Saturday, and how proud I am of this show. Hailed by many as the best of all time, this show was an incredibly special one featuring flying children, paper cup vandalism, phenomenally choreographed and performed dance numbers, and my personal highlight, guitar dubstep. This year's production was a real stand out, and I have many praises to sing, so that is what this blog is all about.

The drama ensemble killed it this year in bringing their characters to life, the chemistry between each character was so genuine, it really made all the 'moments' in the show hit. The Juniors this year as well, were one the best junior drama ensembles I have had the pleasure of working with, they were all so easy to work with, and they all worked together well, I was extremely impressed.

I like to bust a move as much as the next guy, but I must admit, I am no professional dancer. I can hit a mean pas de bourree, or even a single pirouette like 60% of the time, but I am still shocking. My mum, however, did ballet for like twenty something years, and she is MEAN. She has watched a number of shows with me accompanying her (as well as with me in it), and nine times out of ten, the first thing she rips into is the dancing. But this time, she told me it was her FAVOURITE part of the show! That is no small feat, so consider yourselves very honoured to be bestowed such a comment. She said her favourite dances were 'Teardrop' and 'Clap Snap,' the latter having her favourite move, which was the wrap-around lift thing.

I have never experienced band envy before, but the soundtrack this year was killer. The band was impressively tight this year, and my favourite pre-show activity was watching them soundcheck from the front row of the auditorium (or joining in jamming if they did not have work to do). My favourite songs from an instrumental stand point would definitely be 'Firestarter', 'Underneath the Radar', and especially 'The 2nd Law: Unsustainable' for its climactic build-up throughout, the insane guitar work with the octave pedal, and the mad hi-hat chops played during the guitar solo.

The vocals were really the icing on the cake, enhancing the most emotional and explosive (in one case literally) moments in the show. 'In the End' had some really moving vocal work, the harmonies were SO beautiful, I was overly impressed. Some other songs I was particularly impressed with were 'For What It's Worth,' 'Mercy' and 'All These Things I've Done,' but I think my personal favourite pick would be 'Freedom.' The confidently delivered solos paired with the strong ensemble singing and sick choreography really made this one stand out among the rest.

Overall, the show just LOOKED great, right? Well, that was all thanks to the wonderful design team, who worked so extremely hard on the costumes and props, and it really showed. The Uneducated costumes were seriously impressive, the detail was phenomenal. While I was changing the mics of the Uneducated cast, I would notice intricate pieces on each of their costumes, like the tape measure necklace that Needle wore, or the little spikes on Rizi's collar. They were also a huge help backstage; we are incredibly grateful for them.

Bravo, jolly good show. Alas, we have officially closed, the set now sits in pieces in the ASPIRE shed, and with an exasperated sigh, we must press forward. Next up, Battle of the Bands is quick approaching on the 19th of August, our Young Actors Program is performing their piece, 'The Missing Diary' in three weeks on the 29th of August, then Junior Theatre Makers not long after that on the 18th of September! Applications have just opened for our upcoming Senior Theatre Makers and Musical Theatre programs, which you can access on the ASPIRE website, and applications are still open for Junior Theatre Festival and WOW Gallery, so get in while you can. On top of this, auditions for next year's production have already opened, and it is going to be a good one, so get in quick while you can! Until then, brush your teeth, and do not stop reading my blog. Thanks.

An exhausted but very satisfied,  
Daniel

