

'Sandy Hackett's Rat Pack Show' resurrects memories of legendary performers

'Holding The Man' a beautiful, poignant play from down-under



Nate Jones and Luke O'Sullivan

Photo by Suzanne Strong

Suzanne Strong



Joan and John Schwartz

LA Theater Reviews Examiner

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'Holding the Man' one of Australia's most successful plays of all times

Rating:

May 31, 2014

By JoanAlperin-Schwartz

'Holding the Man' directed by veteran Hollywood acting coach, Larry Moss reminds us...why we go to the theatre.

Because when done well, a play can transform us in a way that **no** other medium can do...And that's certainly the case, with the newly formed, Australian

Theatre Company's production of '**Holding the Man**', now playing at the Matrix.

'Holding the Man' is based on writer, actor and activist Timothy Conigrave's best-selling memoir, which won the United Nations Human Rights Award for Non-Fiction.

First off, I must say that across the board, the acting is absolutely wonderful, with the standout being, Nate Jones. He's in practically every scene and I couldn't take my eyes of him. Jones definitely has that **extra** something that goes way beyond being, **just** a good actor.

'Holding the Man' starts out in Melbourne, Australia in the 1970's, not exactly an easy era

to be 'gay'.

Timothy Conigrave (Nate Jones) attends an all-boys private school and has a big time crush on the captain of the football team, John Caleo (Adam J. Yeend). Lucky for Timothy, the attraction is mutual and so starts a love affair that lasts fifteen years.

We follow their relationship through separations, temptations, jealousies, betrayals, loses, and finally death, as a deadly **virus** hits the gay community and no one is immune...

'Holding the Man' is a love story that speaks across generations, sexual preference and cultures. It's a play that anyone and everyone can relate to.

It's at times, extremely funny and at times, extremely heartbreaking, but it's definitely a must-see. This is a play that will stay with you long after the curtain falls.

Rounding out this great cast, who each take on a multiple of roles are...Cameron Daddo, Adrienne Smith, Luke O'Sullivan and Roxane Wilson.

'Holding the Man' written by Tommy Murphy, opened May 10th and the remaining performances are...

Thursday at 8 p.m. June 5, 12, 19, 26

Fridays at 8 p.m. June 6, 13, 20, 27

Saturdays at 8 p.m. June 6, 13, 20, 27

Sundays at 3 p.m. June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

TICKET PRICES: \$34.99

WHERE: Australian Theatre Company @ The Matrix Theatre, 7657 Melrose Ave. LA CA 90046

HOW: 323-960-7735 or www.holdingtheman.us