

theatreguide@bigfoot.com http://theatreguide.tripod.com

TAPESTRY
Matt Byrne Media
Tapestry Winery & Holden Street Theatres
Until February 12

Review by Wendy Mildren

Devotees of Carole King will be delighted with Matt Byrne's musical review "Tapestry".

The "off-Broadway" presentation of the show was staged outdoors at Tapestry Winery at McLaren Vale to a most appreciative audience. The use of this venue was an inspired choice given the name of the production, however after the "try-out" the production will be moving to the Holden Street Theatres at Hindmarsh.

Matt Byrne has put together a talented group of three female and three male singers, who performed well and looked stylish with matching coloured handheld microphones to match their costumes. They were ably backed up by an equally talented group of musicians, under the direction of Mike Pitman.

The production is a review of the music written by Carole King presented in concert form. The selection of songs presented included well known favourites such as "You make me feel like a natural woman", "You've got a friend", "Up on the roof", "Will you still love me tomorrow" and "Locomotion", to name just a few.

Charissa Pitman had a strong voice and really belted out her solos. Christine Isemonger had a sweet voice but needed a little more volume. Robyn Woolvett had the ideal voice for Carole King's music. Nick Brinkworth was great with a very good tuneful voice. Michael Williams had great stage personality but needed a bit more volume, and the last of the sextet, Matt, was a little flat in his solos but his voice blended well with the other singers in the ensemble work.

Obviously, in an outdoors situation there can be problems with volume and sightlines, however when this production moves to the Holden Street Theatres these problems should be eliminated.