



## 2021 Secondary School Virtual Festival

School for the Creative and Performing Arts @ Lafayette High School

### *Cardboard Stories: Thinking Outside the Box*

I loved everything about this piece -- loved, loved, loved. And I'll tell you why. Not only was it brilliantly staged, it was FUN. My soul was filled with the delight of this performance -- my son, who is four, watched it too. The music, the movement, the costumes... all brilliant. And I was cheering these characters on, which is very hard to do without dialogue. Kudos to you all -- you're lucky to be in such a great program. It should run in NYC and/or be a series of Nickelodeon shorts.

**Amanda Spooner**

WOW. Congratulations on creating a fun and joyous piece of theatre during a pandemic! I was engaged right from the start, with how you framed the camera with the box. Your production concept is wonderful. The costuming and the use of the costuming (lining up by color for the hand sanitizer scene, mirroring the "jack in the box") is visually interesting. The way you are using your bodies is stylized and yet specific. The live sound effects and musicians were great as well. Nice catch during the final set construction bit. The ensemble worked so well together. Overall just BRAVO. I really enjoyed watching this production.

**Brook Phillips**

#### **+Wonderful Highlights of this Production**

+CREATIVITY, CREATIVITY, PROCESS, ENSEMBLE, PHYSICAL THEATRE

+Direction, designers, instrumentalists, sound scape,

+ "Props" to the Props +purposeful staging and moves

+opening/closing motif of box opening and closing

+segments clarity of progression and commitment to the ensemble

+title and program notes drew me in to the story and anticipation of what they will do next

+colors of actors' costumes/jumpers

#### **\*Aspects of Production that you might consider for your future productions**

\*straps of jumpers periodically slipping off shoulder-takes audience out of the here and now'

\*The last segment of approximately 2 minutes of building full stage set might have cumulated in the a climactic resolution.

\*There was a part of me that wondered if you ran out of time. There was no ending. Then again, inside a box there would not be a final picture.

Congratulations on the following memorable aspects: Music box Commedia actors and their youthful audience members on the floor; the Whackamole segment; the product of our time "hand washing moment;" simple, unobtrusive sounds/music and see their instrumentalists on stage; the floating wind figures based on those floaty figures outside sales establishments; moments of actors helping others when falling boxes happened;

I want to see more and more and more.. The performance was mesmerizing. Congratulates to your instructors.

**Gai Laing Jones**