

Başak Pehlivan

Evrin Ersöz Koç

AKE 3030

23 May 2024

Response to Staging of *Sweat* by Lynn Nottage

For the Nottage's play of *Sweat*, there are great staging performances. One of them is directed by Mimi B. Francis. The characters are played by Dianna Angelli for Jessie, Shelly Bernard for Evan, Ed Faver for Stan, Brendan Garnett for Brucie, Dawn Lanoue for Tracey, Corey D. Mosley for Chris, Brian Petty for Jason, Armani Reynoso for Oscar, Letitia D. Townes for Cynthia. It was staged between 15.09.2023- 24.09.2023 for two weeks at Villagers Theatre of Somerset NJ.

In the staging of the play, they stick to the script. It starts it with Langston Hughes' citation. Before every scene, they read all the stage directions like news, temperature and dates to audience. These stage directions, before the scenes, are read by different voices through the play. In act one, scene one and Langston Hughes' citation, are read by a woman's voice, then a man read the others until act two, scene six and seven. Also, there are music in some of opening of the scenes and end of the scenes which Nottage wrote in the script. However, they add music in some scene's end, even Nottage did not write about it. Through the play, sounds were designed by Mason Satnick. In addition, set of the play was full detailed. For example, in the parole office they use a white background, a table and chairs. What's more is they make a great bar with all details.

Actors and actresses performed great. Their characters are perfectly fit. All of their colors and ages are exact in the play. Also, they did Jason's tattoos and black eye through the scenes. In every scene their clothes are different, it says that different days. In addition, there are overlapping dialogues in the play, as it is in the script. So, they really care about all the details. For instance, Stan limps, it is not written in the stage direction, he says that it one of his dialogues, happened in the Olstead. Ed Faver, for Stan, limps through the play, which is a perfect performance for audience. Also, all the characters improvise great through the play, but they stick the script in dialogues.



Poster of the Play

Works Cited

Nottage, Lynn. *Sweat*.

“Sweat 2023.” *YouTube*, YouTube, 26 Sept. 2023,
www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBZybMFADgs&t=77s.

“Sweat.” *Villagers Theatre*, www.villagerstheatre.org/viewproductions/sweat-2023/ .
Accessed 23 May 2024.