

## Review – The Addams Family Musical – Worcester on Stage – The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

Members of the ADDAMS FAMILY have been well-known for many years. In the stage musical the story is about a love story. Wednesday Addams, has grown up and fallen in love with Lucas Beineke who is a 'normal' young man from a respectable family. Wednesday's parents (Gomez and Morticia have never met him). Wednesday tells her father she is in love but does not tell her mother. The story is based around Gomez keeping a secret from his wife, Morticia. Everything changes for the whole family on the night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

I saw **The Addams Family** Musical, presented by **Worcester on Stage** at **The** Crescent Theatre, Birmingham in April 2015. I sat in the third row from the front. I was very close to the stage and was worried that the band would be too loud and drown out the vocals but this was not the case. Every seat in this theatre would have got a good view.

The musical numbers were sung clearly and a particular favourite of mine was 'Pulled'. Ella Sutton took the part of Wednesday Addams and she had a powerful voice. She is also a talented actress. I was amazed to learn that she was just 13 years old.

Wednesday's boyfriend Lucas Beineke was not played by the person who had rehearsed the role for months. His name was announced before the show but it was not in the programme. I later found out it was Will Edwards and he had apparently had to learn the part in 3 hours due to the other Lucas being ill. This was a really good performance if this was the case.

Alan Feeney (Gomez) and Claire Hardie (Morticia) were totally believable as the parents even though I thought Morticia could have been a bit more mean given my own experience of performing with a particularly 'mean' Morticia when I was Pugsley. Gomez not speaking in a Spanish accent was different but meant that all the jokes were heard and laughed at by the audience.

Adam Blakemore who took the role of Pugsley was word perfect but little timid for the bold character of Pugsley. His solo song 'What If' went down well with the audience.

Glynis Smith (Grandma) and Ian Thompson (Fester) added to the comedy and looked to be very confident and experienced in their roles. The very tall Tim Hull made good casting as Lurch and was a typical Lurch!

The set and backdrops were amazing and added to the eerie atmosphere that you link with The Addams Family. It was a little weird at first seeing three children as part of the Ancestors group. This is a group of dead people who come out every year. But the dancing was good and their costumes and make up were really effective. Their singing supported the principals well.

Overall, an enjoyable version.