

Echoes of The War Testimonial

Fintan took on the role of Sound Designer for this studio production at the Hampton Hill Theatre.

Performed over 4 nights from 14-17 November 2018, *Echoes of the War* comprised two one-act plays written by J.M. Barrie towards the end of World War 1. With no set and minimal props/furniture I wanted to try and create an evocative and intimate atmosphere through use of sound.

Fintan found a range of period music that was played pre- and post- performance (as the audience were arriving and leaving) and during the interval. He selected each piece to complement the plays and there were a number of comments from audience members about how well chosen they were. The two plays are quite different.

The first, *The Old Lady Shows Her Medals*, is set in a working class 1-room home and the second, *A Well-remembered Voice* is set in an artist's studio of a middle class home. Fintan's sound effects were well judged to complement each setting – from the two different sounds of a fire burning in the grate, to the haunting and evocative bagpipe music played when the old lady (*The Old Lady Shows her Medals*) puts away the memories of her dead son, to the sounds of the battle raging on the front as the Son (*A Well-remembered Voice*) recalls the day he was killed in action.

Fintan has an excellent attention to detail and consistently delivered the cues correctly and on time. He is also very good at managing to the unforeseen - for example, in the second act, the sound effects were timed to dialogue which on one occasion during the run did not quite follow the script.

Fintan was able to adapt and respond to the immediate situation such that the sounds were still heard at the right points in the dialogue regardless of the order in which the cast delivered their lines!

Fintan's attitude and approach to work is highly professional. Always reliable, always on time and always with a positive attitude. Fintan is a pleasure to work with and I hope that he'll be available to work with me again in the not too distant future.

Sally Halsey

Director, *Echoes of the War* for Teddington Theatre Club at Hampton Hill Playhouse

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