



Adelaide Fringe review 2017 — A Regular Little

Houdini

Richard Evans, The Advertiser March 8, 2017 4:20pm

Bakehouse Theatre — Mainstage

WHEN Dustin Hoffman was filming *Marathon Man* he famously got into a tizz, unable to see past his anxieties while preparing to perform.

“My dear boy,” said his co-star Laurence Olivier, “why don’t you just try acting?”

The sole performer here, Daniel Llewelyn-Williams, is in need of no such advice, magically transporting the audience back to industrial south Wales (UK version) of 110 years ago as he plays the same character through his different stages of childhood.

By turn social history, comedy, theatre with a touch of magic thrown in — the story surrounds the excitement of the young boy discovering Harry Houdini and then discovering the escapologist is to visit his hometown.

It’s the capacity though that Llewelyn-Williams has to immerse us in his story, to make you believe, feel and pull for him that sets the sole performer, and play, apart.

A touch too long maybe and unsure of genre but an excellent 60 minutes.

Llewelyn-Williams won’t have Hoffman’s acclaim or money (he was selling programs on the way out) but goodness, he can act.