

The Advertiser

Adelaide Fringe review 2018: Smoking with Grandma

Josephine Lim, The Advertiser
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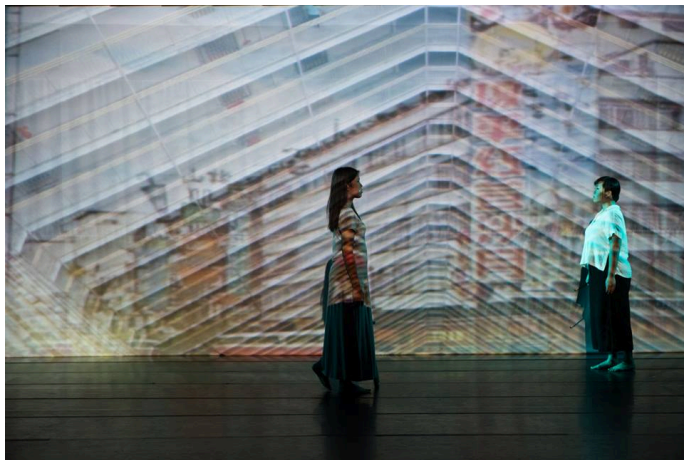
Smoking with Grandma

Theatre

Rating: ★★★★★

Bakehouse Theatre

Until March 10



HOW long would you stand on the edge of the ocean, waiting to sail to a new life?

Cathy SK Lam transports the audience back to the years on a remote island where nationalists of the fallen Kuomintang — refugees — had escaped to and hoped to find a better future across the sea.

The story told from a granddaughter's — a younger, free from war, generation's — point of view is poignant, with seamless performances on a barebones stage.

She gets a final look at her grandma's past before the last remnants of the refugee village vanished forever.

Relayed in two languages, this need-to-be-told tale is etched in poetic narrative suitable for many, and favoured by history lovers.