

Adelaide Fringe review

2017: I'd Turn Back

Sophie Perri, The Advertiser
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I'd Turn Back

Theatre ***1/2

Bakehouse Theatre — Mainstage, until March 10

WHILE this 30-minute show is most likely preaching to the converted, the young team behind Scrambled Prince Theatre Company does a solid job of sensitively highlighting the plight of refugees and asylum seekers.

Created by 17-year-old Liv, the piece is devoid of any props or sets — just four actors dressed in black and white, recounting stories and adopting elements of physical theatre.

Audio of Tony Abbot's "stop the boats" spin contrasted with some heavy scenes jolt the audience back to sad reality.

There are some strong performances from all four actors but the personal stories fall short of revealing anything too different from what we've heard in the media.

Considering the script was created directly from verbatim accounts of refugees, it seems like a lost opportunity.

The actors acknowledge their white privilege at the end, introducing themselves by age and ancestry ("I'm 17 and my ancestors came from Poland") and conceding that we are "all boat people".

Overall, it's a show with heart that introduces us to an inspiring new generation of theatre-makers.

Sophie Perri