

Jeremy Johnson

Reflection on *Peter Pan*

Seeing *Peter Pan* at the National was one of those never forget moments for me. When I was little, I remember seeing the film in a cinema for the first time. Surprisingly, I haven't seen the film or any theatrical production of it, until we saw it at the National Theatre. I was easily blown away with the show, and it brought back a very good motto to live by, which I will talk about in a moment. For me, this was like seeing a Broadway show. The theatrics and choices made for this production really helped my sense of wonder and imagination take off for a bit while I was watching. I was very moved by how the actors represented their characters, and how I was brought into the story by watching them.

From watching the effects and spectacle of the journey into Neverland, to when Wendy returns, I felt the little kid inside me growing excited. There were many moments as well, where I felt more sad and emotional though too. If a kid is watching this show, he or she is likely to remember a good story and lesson. For me however, as I always look deeper into shows and art, I find more than that. When Peter goes to bed in his little bassinet for example, the moment that was created on stage is what really drove the point to me that, "wow, he doesn't want to grow up." It is also when I really noticed that his pants do not fit either. Overall, the grand take on this performance for me is that you can make some really cool, interesting theatre while still telling a great story.