

# THE REVIEWERS CLUB

Event: Persuasion  
Venue: Salisbury Playhouse  
Date: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011  
Reviewer: Charlotte Moreland

Anne Eliot fell in love with the young sea man Frederick Wentworth at the age of 19. Unfortunately, he was very poor, she was very rich, and so her family persuaded her to break off their engagement. Eight years later, Anne is still very much in love with Frederick, and when he returns from sea a Captain, she wonders if she can re-ignite their lost but not forgotten love.

Directed by Kate Saxon and starring Marianne Oldham, who has been nominated for Best Performance in a Play by the Theatre Awards UK, this production was bound to be impressive.

The action began with a storm at sea, and then progressed nicely into a homely scene at the Eliot's family estate, where the vain and money spending baronet Sir Walter Eliot, Anne's father, is told he must move out of his estate in order to recover his decaying wealth. Sir Walter, played by Simon Chandler, particularly stood out, with his pink stripey costume and comedic attitude. Other impressive performances came from Lizzie Winkler, who portrayed her character of Mary, Anne's younger sister, spectacularly, grabbing the audience's attention with her extravagant character, but not stealing the spotlight entirely.

The play features lots of entertaining period dancing, and live singing which is quite entertaining.

The target audience it seems, were unfortunately mainly of the older generation. I enjoyed this play very much, but I wouldn't recommend it to anyone of my age as it did become rather tiresome at times; however, I am sure any Jane Austen fans would appreciate it more than me!

*Persuasion continues at Salisbury Playhouse until Saturday November 12*

*The Young Reviewers Club is run by The Unit,  
17 Endless Street, Salisbury, SP1 1DP.  
For more information or to book our young  
reviewers and photographers please get in touch*

[info@unitspace.org.uk](mailto:info@unitspace.org.uk)  
01722 341408  
[www.unitspace.org.uk](http://www.unitspace.org.uk)

