

Slave – A Question of Freedom

Based on the book Slave by Mende Nazer and Damien Lewis

Adapted by Kevin Fegan and Caroline Clegg

Feelgood Theatre Productions

The Lowry, 26 November 2010



The lady herself, Mende Nazer. Photo credit: Neil Matthews

This moving play tells the story of Mende Nazer, a woman sold as a slave who yet found her way to freedom. She now campaigns against slavery and people-trafficking.

A play like this could easily have been simply worthy and well meaning, however instead it is a powerful piece of work which is quite disturbing and difficult to sit through at times. For it is not easy to see bad things (beatings, degradation and humiliation) happen to a good person.

The cast were terrific, one and all, though I'd make especial mention of Lashana Lynch, who played Mende, and Danny Scheinmann and Elena Pavli, both of whom took on a number of roles. Pavli was scarily effective as Mende's mistress, making an awfully good baddie, the timbre of her voice being both frightening and fearsome.

Reviewer: Jildy Sauce