

YOUR APPRAISAL

“We are such stuff as dreams are made on”

The Tempest

Produced and performed by
Edgbaston High School for Girls
mac theatre Birmingham

23rd November 2016

Appraised by Nick Sutcliffe

Many congratulations to the cast and crew of Edgbaston High School for Girls on their fantastic production! I'd like to highlight a few things from this group that stood out, wowed the audience and made this Shakespeare Schools Festival night an evening to remember.

What a fantastic opening you had, with the cast using their bodies to create the shipwreck and then all the bodies falling to the floor as if washed up on the beach. This grabbed the audience's attention from the beginning and you didn't let go throughout!

I loved the idea of Ariel jumping up out of the pile of bodies, almost as if they'd been on board orchestrating the shipwreck. This set the scene for a truly magical story.

What a brilliant use of ensemble you had, in particular when you used your bodies to create Caliban's cave and your voices to



create a soundscape. All of this helped to produce the feeling that this was not a place we wanted to spend time and you developed this atmosphere using your bodies and voices – amazing work!

There was fantastic focus from the entire cast and by staying on throughout it meant that no one had anywhere to hide. You were all so dedicated to telling this story in the clearest way possible. The audience understood every stage of it because of your clarity.

This was a brilliantly told story with bold performances throughout - congratulations!

It's a significant achievement to do something as difficult and aspirational as perform one of Shakespeare's plays on a professional stage. Everyone who's taken part should be so proud of themselves."
Ruth Brock, SSF Chief Executive

I would like to congratulate everyone involved in this superb production. I hope to see your school in the festival again next year.

Nick Sutcliffe
SSF Stage Director