

CHRISTOPHER DEAN ANDERSON

The experience of seeing Aureum at the Elsinore Theater was magical in every detail and facet. The show's underscore is an incredible, beautiful arrangement that carried me through the entire narrative of the story. The emotions and energy conveyed through the talent and technical design were woven together perfectly with each note of the richly, written music of the show.

In a welcome break from the sometimes confusing storyline of many of the most famous or popular cirque shows, Aureum's story unfolded for me with an ease that allowed me to enjoy the details, the beauty, and the incredible athletic talent displayed in this production.

Audience members of all ages around me sat mesmerized as we followed the tale of the White Queen of Aureum. With each character we were treated to incredible, varying acts of aerial and cirque artistry. Each cast member brought different displays of skill. The straps, lyra, and hand-balancing featured had the audience on the edge of their seats. We all gazed upwards as the talented performers soared above us in intense and gorgeous numbers while simultaneously painting a rich and exciting tale in the battle for control of the powerful and beautiful "seed".

On top of incredible acts of strength, balance, flexibility, and grace, each performer also clearly communicated the acting skills to weave the story together in an exciting way for the audience. Even the evil Red Empress, costumed in such a spectacular way that it rivaled couture runways, won the audience over with her confidence and commitment. We couldn't help but root for the "bad guy" due to her awe-inspiring talent and fierce presence.

Aureum captured the hearts of the audience when they introduced the dashing and very-likable character of the male romantic lead. The entire crowd seemed to cheer for the inevitable connection between him and his equally beautiful female counterpart. Their duo (and solo) acts took us on an emotional trip as they connected in both aesthetically stunning and death defying choreography high above the Salem audience. Indeed, the entire cast won over the hearts of everyone in the theatre. The Halycon Shows group is certainly in a class of their own.

Aureum combines flawless costume design, pulse-racing lighting and effects, moving music, and most importantly, the grace and beauty of a cast of talented athletes and actors to take the lucky people in the seats on a journey they will never forget. I'm already looking forward to the next step in this story.

Christopher Dean Anderson
Former Associate Producer - Radio City Music Hall