



Reviews provided by members of the Audience Club

## Boat People - Pentameters Theatre

Reviewer & Rating	Review
Chee Song (4/5)	<p>This is a very impressive first play from a promising writer who I hope to see much more of in the future! It is a succinct production, essentially a "courtroom drama", which explores modern day and timeless issues - that of the migrant crisis into Europe and the human instinct to help those in need. Loosely based on a true event.</p> <p>It is a short play of about 45 minutes, but in its brevity it captures the interchange between the barrister and the witness perfectly and opens up the moral dilemma that leaves you questioning how the law sits alongside morality - does it do so fairly or not? It also simply asks what is more important - protecting the profit of a ship's cargo or helping desperate migrants on unsafe boats ill-suited to the sea, and thereby unwittingly assisting the human traffickers to transport them into Europe.</p> <p>The Q &amp; A with the writer afterwards was also very interesting as it gave an opportunity for the the writer to share her thoughts and explain why the elements in the play were as so.</p> <p>Please go see it!</p>
Nick Banton (4/5)	<p>A fantastic thought provoking play . Having thought about it for a while after getting home I am not sure if this play would benefit from a second act or not, I am still undecided. The one act play was of a good length and a a very interesting q&amp;a which followed. A very enjoyable evening. The theatre is an amazing space and like a museum which I loved. The lady doing the box office was very welcoming and attentive. Great play great venue.</p>
Valerie Shaul (4/5)	<p>I had never been to nor ever heard of this theatre before even though it has been going for 50 years and is just a stone's throw away from my home. What a wonderful discovery. A very small and intimate venue like being in someone's home with armchairs in the front row. The people who run the theatre true are so warm and friendly it is like you are their invited guests</p> <p>The play was really good and worth seeing. It was thought provoking and made you realise that no matter what you may think emotionally there are 2 sides to every story.</p>

There was a great Q&A with the author afterwards that helped to round off a very enjoyable evening. I recommend the play and the venue

Karen & Josh Kennard (3/5)

A play which raises some interesting moral and ethical dilemmas but doesn't go far enough to explore them and left the audience feeling they needed more, indeed expecting more.

The venue as always, was a complete gem. Charming.

Sarah & Johnny Bouchier (4/5)

What a wonderful Sunday afternoon. A walk around the beautiful Georgian streets of Hampstead and a visit to charming Burgh House. Finally a performance at the ever delightful and quirky Pentameters Theatre now celebrating its 50th anniversary. Warmly greeted by Leonie Scott Matthews, we settled down in the comfortable chairs in the front row to watch the short but thought provoking play Boat People. Set in a civil court it lays bare the motives and repercussions of rescuing refugees at sea. A very topical subject that is not going to go away. I would have liked to have seen it go further but we were able to discuss some of the other issues involved with the bright young author in a Q & A afterwards. Living in Surrey it is a bit of a schlep for us to get to Hampstead but I cannot recommend it highly enough.