



“LEND ME YOUR EARS!”

Julius Caesar
by Hazel Oak School
at mac Birmingham, 9/11/2018
appraised by Alex Whiteley

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Hazel Oak School for your fantastic production of Julius Caesar as part of the 2018 Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was a brilliant night of theatre, and I'd like to highlight just a few elements that really stood out.

I loved seeing the different, creative ways this story was told. As well as Shakespeare's language, we had the modern English narration, the music, and that lovely opening movement sequence. I also loved the very interesting way they showed the battle defeat - it captured our imagination. This was a brilliant way to support the audience in understanding the story.

As well as this, I was so impressed with the company's attitude, especially during your technical rehearsals. We spent time going over the same sections and jumping around in the script, and these young people were so patient and calm, their professional manner helped this run smoothly.

They were also such a supportive group, helping each other with their lines and their nerves, but also cheering on the other schools. This sense of support and community is exactly what SSF is all about and this group really exemplified this.

This brilliantly professional company gave us a tense and cleverly told Julius Caesar.

Performing Shakespeare's words on a professional stage takes courage, resilience, and imagination. You and your teachers should all be incredibly proud of what you have achieved.

I hope to see Hazel Oak School in the Festival again next year!

Alex Whiteley

**“THIS BRILLIANTLY
PROFESSIONAL
COMPANY GAVE US A
TENSE AND CLEVERLY
TOLD JULIUS CAESAR.”**

