

Brighton Festival, Perhaps All The Dragons, The Spire, St Mark's Chapel, until May 24

11:29am Thursday 22nd May 2014

By Tom Locke

Every good festival has a must-see show. 'One round table with 30 seated screens at one side of the table and 30 audience seats at the other side. 30 one-on-one narratives. The spectator can choose five he would like to see.'

There is a lot of blurb issued both before and after this event, telling you the whys and hows of the concept.

'How many people are needed for someone to make contact with someone he knows personally?' In fact, the spectator is told when to move and where to sit next. There was absolute audience observance to every instruction issued and total focus on the screens, technology very much in charge.

'On average there six steps between you and anyone in the world you can imagine.' Despite the close proximity of everyone in the space there was minimal interaction. Extraneous noises intermittently united the audience with the narrators, bringing everyone back into the space.

Perhaps All the Dragons (... in our lives are princesses ...) is this Festival's must-experience show. Here staged in St Mark's Chapel, where the beautiful stained-glass windows burn down on the immaculate technology below.

What does it mean? You can believe what the blurb tells you or find out for yourself.

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