

International Press Voices

London, Sadler's Wells

"The cast was outstanding!"

The Times

"A fabulous, emotionally charged revival."

"The emotions are on an operatic scale here; the sheer expansive physicality of it makes your spine tingle and heart sing."

The Guardian

"An exciting, raving triumph!"

"If you buy one theater ticket this summer, make it for the West Side Story!"

The Observer

"This revival is an excellent introduction as well as a welcome reminiscence of a classic with a rich and full sound and a whole lot of heart."

The Independent

"Director Joey McNeely brings Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim's musical masterpiece to life whilst the performers put on a spectacular display of energy and physicality. Each energetic dance number performed to split second perfection, and costumes dazzling with vibrant color."

The London Word

Paris, Théâtre du Châtelet

“West Side Story: a timeless spectacle. [...] 50 years of enchantment.”

Le Figaro Magazine

“The ballet offers spectacular dancing scenes. [...] Swing and Jazz are of a tremendous vitality and a crazy and rhythmic complexity.”

Le Monde

“The viewer is filled with ecstasy when experiencing the energy of the young dancers who are actors and singers all at the same time and who display a vitality as it is only known in America.”

Le Nouvel Observateur

“Jerome Robbins’ original production is fantastic. [...]The ensemble of dancers and singers is fabulous.”

Pariscope

“The audience gave standing ovations yesterday at the Parisian Théâtre du Châtelet at the end of the premiere. The production of the West Side Story is rightfully described as the ‘original’ by the masterpiece’s successors. [...] It is in no way inferior to the outstanding quality of the film.”

Le Parisien

Asia

“Powerful and full of energy! A musical for the 21st century! [...] The newborn musical West Side Story is a must-see!”

Asahi Newspaper, Tokyo

“Staged and choreographed by Joey McKneely – this West Side Story is full of energy, powerful, and entirely romantic.”

Bangkok Post

“Yesterday evening, West Side Story was performed at the Beijing Exhibition Hall Theater and heartily applauded by the 2700 viewers, including official representatives of the Central and Regional Government. The play was staged in Beijing for the first time and it can be seen on several occasions during its tour through Asia. The show which has been awarded a Tony in the past was highly appreciated by the audience for its moving story, the US-influenced music, the racy dance numbers as well as for the energy of its performers.

Beijing Daily, Beijing

“A salute to the invisible musicians in the orchestra pit which have let us slide deep into our seats by announcing the approaching disaster and for moving us to tears in all the right moments.”

“A brilliant evening filled with dance and music mixed with romance and hostility which gave the play its zest. The performance of the musicians of the orchestra cannot be praised enough.”

Macau Post

“There were several moments throughout the two-and-a-half-hour long performance during which the viewer experienced goose bumps and became aware of why West Side Story is the classic among musicals.”

The Straits Times, Singapore

Germany, Switzerland, Austria

“These days the musical genre returns to the world of higher culture at the Old Opera. This is where it belongs. Joey McKneely’s version of the piece which was staged for the first time on Broadway in 1957 and tells the story of a hopeless love between two members of rivaling teenage gangs had its premiere at the Frankfurt Konzerthaus: a complete success.”

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

“The production convinces with its overwhelming and colorful appearance, perfect musical performance, gripping orchestration, and a choreographically as well as dramatically persuading ensemble. [...] Breathtaking precision blends with explosive impact and hot

temper during the dancing scenes. [...] a great piece of music theater and fabulous staging which literally blew the audience out of its seats during Wednesday's premiere in Zurich. [...] Captivating!"

Neue Zürcher Zeitung

Tactfully and with a variety of tunes moving between jazzy coolness and dissonant drama the musicians render a perfect interpretation of everything that Bernstein once packed into his original score. The curtain falls after two-and-a-half hours and the audience quickly catches a last whiff of Broadway before giving into euphoric applause."

Leipziger Volkszeitung

"[...] This BB-production is well worth seeing and West Side Story shows what it has that makes it better than the most part of its genre – especially in recent years: class!"

Musicals

"A brilliant West Side Story from New York."

Basler Zeitung