

Devan Zimmerman  
Drama  
Dr. Carballo  
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### Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Cinderella"

This February, I was fortunate enough to have a ticket to see Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella" at the original Broadway Theater in New York City. The beautifully decorated stage, assembled with a little cottage within a wooded forest, was an instant eye-catcher.

This rendition followed the original production, with just a little variation. The musical numbers performed included many from the original performances, but also included a few additional songs, including "Me, Who am I?" sung by Prince Topher. The basis of the original story was followed; a young woman taken advantage of by her evil step-mother and two step-sisters is helped by a fairy god mother to have a better life. The plot in this rendition focuses on Cinderella showing the prince the injustice of the kingdom and opening his eyes to the villainous people trying to take over.

The costumes and stage transitions were flawless; Cinderella transitioned beautifully from rags to fancy ball gown in mere seconds on stage. Her footmen also did an incredible performance transitioning from puppet animals into humans on stage. They bounced around and performed animal-like flips and stunts while transitioning in and out of their human roles. Crazy Marie also did a fabulous job of transforming on stage; she went from the crazy lady in rags to the gorgeous fairy god mother in an instant. Not only was the costume transitions fantastic, the stage transitions were as well. The little house in the woods transformed into a hiding spot in the woods, the castle steps, the town square, and the castle ballroom.

Overall, the performance was phenomenal. The production was great and it stuck fairly close to the original; there were a few added qualities, but they created a nice touch.

After three months, I can still vividly remember the feel-good ambiance that production created within that theater; it's definitely a play I won't regret remembering for awhile.