

Review

Frankenstein

Bristol Old Vic

Evening Post

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Experiment goes right

Weary critics do not normally gush about productions – but Forkbeard Fantasy's latest offering is the most fun you'll have in a theatre this year.

It's hardly a traditional telling of the tale; instead Forkbeard has let their over-active imaginations rampage through reams of research to emerge with some of the most inventive and innovative theatre to grace the Theatre Royal's stage.

Working across media, the company have seamlessly moulded film, puppetry and performance into a play that makes traditional dramas look as though they come from a different, more boring universe.

Chris and Tim Britton, aided by Jonathan Priest romp through their performances. Priest, in a wonderful Igor costume designed by Penny Saunders, quickly establishes himself as the audience favourite, and who could resist him?

Tim Britton takes the lead as David G Scrivener, giving a sweaty-palmed representation of a sci-fi geek while his brother Chris undergoes a series of transformations, particularly funny as Frankenstein's lumbering "creature".

Forkbeard's use of film is already legendary, but here they really put it to excellent use, gliding between the screen and the stage. But there's one way to really sample Forkbeard's unique brand of theatre – go and see it. You won't be disappointed.