

Wiltshire Times

Review: The Witches of Eastwick, Arc Theatre, Trowbridge



**Plotting over their martinis:
Dora Bishop as Sukie, Lou Knight as Alexandra and
Leoni Macaslin as Jane**

12:00pm Thursday 5th June 2014 in News By [Valerie Young](#)

Be careful what you wish for.....three women, frustrated by their mundane lives in small-town Eastwick, fantasise over their martinis, all wishing for their own perfect man: "Handsome like the devil but perfectly divine".

With a flash of lightning, the arrival of a charismatic stranger seems to be the answer to their prayers. However, soon events spiral out of control and all hell breaks loose.

TAOS Musical Theatre's leading ladies, Dora Bishop, Leonie Macaslin and Lou Knight, are astounding, with their stunning voices, strong characterisations and delightful harmonies. Gary Robson as Darryl Van Horne, cannot match their vocal quality but he plays the devil incarnate with enough charm, style and swagger to make the seduction of his 'witches'" believable as they fall under his spell.

Unfortunately the spell was frequently broken by poor scene changes; at times the stage was silent and empty and the audience was left waiting. Scenery does have to be changed but the audience could perhaps be distracted by making more use of the musicians and back stage projections, to better maintain the flow.

That said, each scene once assembled was absorbing. The wardrobe and period feel of the production were well executed and the chorus of townspeople carried the audience through the changes in mood of the story with good voice.

I was worried as to how one of my favourite films would work as a musical but it does. TAOS Musical Theatre are to be congratulated for tackling a less traditional show and performing it with gusto.