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## Review: Operation Adelmo, New Town Theatre, George Street

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By Josie Balfour

### Operation Adelmo, New Town Theatre, George Street \*\*\*

A LOVELY baritone takes your hand, leads you on stage and serenades you. He kisses your hand as you depart.

Twenty minutes after that romantic onstage interlude, said baritone, Adelmo Guidarelli, was dressed in a baseball outfit, sporting a parasol and singing Baby Got Back.

So much for grand romance and passion. At least this enlightening introduction to opera has a happy ending.

Well, no one dies anyway.

Supported by buxom Jessica Rabbit lookalike Lady Ruby, as his dazzling assistant, and downtrodden pianist Seth Weinstein, Adelmo leads his audience through the basic elements of great opera.

He also throws in a large helping of contemporary music, see Baby Got Back, and a little bit of magic for good measure.

Accessible in the way only Americans can make elitist pursuits, Operation Adelmo has many charms for people who have previously been intimidated by the art form and for anyone who wants to increase their knowledge.

Lady Ruby's silent schtick eases matters along so well that one wonders if the company's next show might not be all about the trials of a stage show assistant.

*Run ends August 28*

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Page 1 of 1

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