

## **NODA Review**

This was an interesting version of a well-loved classic which provided a lot of scope for a large cast. There were some really nice touches such as the original drawing by Deirdre Lee, the [film poster](#) in the foyer and the exploding clocks which kept everybody on their toes! In general, a lot of effort had been put into creating exactly the right atmospheric setting and the whole production team deserve congratulation.

Individual performances varied a little in quality and pace but perhaps this was to be expected in a piece where there were sure to be pre-conceptions. I particularly liked the light interpretation of Sarah Ward as Elphine, the varied reactions of Carol Wadey as Mrs Hawk-Monitor and the consistent gothic pessimism of Jeanette Brown as Judith. Brian Perrett, Chris Topham and Kevin Webb each created believable characterisations that strengthened the action. Ann Monk was a memorable Aunt Ada Doom and it somehow seemed appropriate that she should also have been credited with the creation of the Sukebind! However, the real success of the performance rested with Caroline Harbord who created a very intelligent and sympathetic portrayal of Flora, around whom most of the action flowed.

Michael G Williamson  
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