

# The Yellow on the Broom

By Caitlin Lewis

I saw Yellow on the Broom at Dundee Rep on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September. The play is based on the book by Betsy Whyte. Berry picking, neep pulling, basket making: Scotland's travelling folk stayed close to the land, following the changing seasons to where ever it took them, sleeping beneath the stars, selling the bits and pieces they made. The cast had Chiara Sparkes as Bessie jr, Gary Mackay as Sandy Townsley, Beth Marshall as Maggie Townsley, Ann Louise Ross as Bessie senior. These four I would say are the main characters of the play but you have other people who are the extras who are: Ross Baxter, Barrie Hunter, Emily Winter, John Kielty and Irene Macdonald.

The rocks at the back of the stage really expressed the hills and mountains that the characters had to walk over. I also found that they manage to express the difference that Bessie had to go through but trying to fit school around her lifestyle of being a traveller. I also like that the background music would let you know that there was a song coming along soon, so it wasn't just sprung on the audience with no warning like other musicals.

Over all I did enjoy the play and the way it was preformed and it taught me about Scotland's history because I didn't know that there were travellers like that in the world even in the past.

Star Rate: 4.5 out of 5 stars