

Media Quotes

Barracking for the Umpire by Andrea Gibbs

“Gibbs’ writing gracefully darts between poignant subjects, touching on learning to live with a disability, the rights of gay people, feminism and the fragility and toxicity of masculinity” - **Perth Happenings ★★★★★**

“What a win! Perth audiences should get excited to see what she writes next” - **The West ★★★★★ 1/2**

“Andrea Gibbs’s play perfectly encapsulates the good, the bad, and the ugly of the AFL” - **Pelican Magazine ★★★★★**

“Well-crafted, hugely entertaining and relatable play” - **Subiaco Post**

“A superb piece of writing” - **Green Left**

“A beautifully layered 90-minute play” - **Perth Walkabout**

“A stunning writing debut for Gibbs” - **Perth Live Arts**

“A standing ovation” - **Starfish**

“Gibbs’ writing venerates footy culture with familiarity and affection. Her skill in lightly touching on complex issues through humorous dialogue draws audience into the heart of the family” - **Artshub ★★★★★ 1/2**

“Gibbs has a knack for truth and authenticity in her work (here and in her wider career); she doesn’t back away from vulnerability under a cover of cynicism, she moves through it with courage and honesty of language” - **Perth Live Arts**

“Andrea Gibbs has kicked it out of the park. More people deserve to see such a brilliantly funny and poignant show, and hopefully the discussion it raises will continue after the final siren” - **Theatre Travels**

“This much is clear, with love and family being clear themes throughout, wonderfully interwoven with the ugly side of small-town life and AFL. As a way of kickstarting the conversation, *Barracking for the Umpire* is perfect, with humour and warmth scattered throughout for good measure’ - **Broadway World**

“Andrea Gibbs kicks a winning goal with an insightful exploration of the sport’s impact on one family. *Barracking for the Umpire* invites conversations that need to be had. Don’t miss it” - **Seesaw Magazine**

Audience Quotes

Barracking for the Umpire by Andrea Gibbs

“Andrea has created a multi-layered delight which induces laughter, tears, compassion, deep thought, reflection and downright joy. It is an absolute gem enacted by a superb cast. Thank you”

“Andrea Gibbs is undoubtedly a playwright to watch. I look forward to her next play”

"Beautifully written, quintessential Australian story"

"Outstanding... funny, sad, relevant, important, extremely moving ... so very well portrayed"

“Barracking for the Umpire was an absolutely outstanding performance. I came back and saw it again. I loved it so much! Thanks for bringing this to the stage, such a raw and emotional portrayal of something that means so much to so many people:) 5 million stars!!”

"I took my son to see the play and he thoroughly enjoyed it. It also sparked the conversation about CTE Which made us both look into the effects and consequences. Thoroughly worthwhile"

"I grew up in Donnybrook and it was a wonderful experience seeing my community represented in this show, and seeing everyone come up to watch it! It was deeply emotional with incredible performers, one of the best shows I have seen"

"The show was brilliant. Made me proud to be a West Australian! Congratulations to the cast, crew and creative team. Up there Cazaly!"

“Amazing show! Incredible writing”

“A riveting performance of a hard hitting script”

“Fantastic production! Extraordinary performances in a wonderful play. A truly memorable night In the theatre”

“A wonderful night in the theatre! Huge congratulations to the entire company”

“Made me proud to be a West Australian. Such talent - in the writing, acting and production. Hope it travels nationally. Bravo!”

“The crescendo at the end of the play was extraordinary, and pitch perfect”