

Theatre Extravaganza: A true theatrical treat

Entertainment, action, drama and emotion coloured the stage at the finale of 'Abhinaya - National Kannada Theatre Festival' held at Jagriti Theatre on 5th January, 2014. The theatre festival 'Abhinaya' is organised by Jain University, Centre for Management studies each year. This year the theatre festival received overwhelming response. Abhinaya turned out to be a complete feast of spectacular performances for all Kannada theatre lovers. The finale was a stunning affair with four splendid plays competing for the Abhinaya trophy.

Four different plays that reflected four different spectrums were performed at the finale. Ranga Payana's Shraddha by Srinivas Vaidya displayed the intensity and conflicts of principles in a relationship. Samantini, the second play to get through to the finals brought to life a mythological drama. Devare Henna spun the delight of comedy with a tinge of irony and left the audience in splits, while tickling their intellect. The play that created pure magic on stage was Treadmill, originally adopted from hindi, the play delved into the personal memories of people in the small town. The interesting twist in the Kannada version was that the lead protagonist was a film actor. The addition of this twist and three lively songs upped the entertainment quotient of the play. On the whole the finale of Abhinaya was a complete package for theatre enthusiast.

Treadmill turned out to be the runaway hit, winning awards in most of the categories. The elaborate costumes and superb screen play of Devare Henna also put up stiff competition to win the trophy. In the end it was a nail biting finish with Treadmill bagging the first place, with tough contenders Devare Henna coming in second.

"Abhinaya occupies a very special space in theatrical journey of all my team members. Every year that we have participated in the festival, we have had a beautiful experience. This year Abhinaya has become all the more special to my entire team of Ranga Payana, with our play winning awards in most of the categories" says Nitesh S, best supporting actor and director of Abhinaya.

Sri Raksha, who won the best actress award for her performance in treadmill at Abhinaya was ecstatic after her win. "Ever since I was a kid I wanted to do theatres, every time you perform on stage it is a memorable moment, my heartfelt gratitude to Abhinaya for giving me many such memorable moments" she added.