

## Outlook

# ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS & BOOKS

## Charlie Brown hits Oh Canada Eh? stage

DAVE STOBBE — REPORTER

Ever wonder what a cartoon strip transcribed into a musical would look like?

*You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, put on by Oh Canada Eh? Productions, brings to life the simple cartoon characters that have

entertained millions since its debut on Oct. 2, 1950.

Fans of sketches, with their simple humour often paired with deeper philosophical meanings, will not be disappointed in the show.

Cartoon strips border all sides of the stage, while props are simplified and

created to look like cartoons. The acting is strong, believable and entertaining.

The two-hour show plays out like a series of the cartoon strips sewn together to make a larger sit-com style show.

The musical opens with the fatalist Charlie Brown,

played by Joe Morris, lamenting that no one loves him. Throughout the show he attempts to catch the attention of a cute little red head girl, with mixed feelings. At one point he ends up with a paper lunch bag over his head and realizes he probably looks like a fool. He doesn't want

to take it off in case she sees him, but he doesn't want to keep it on in case she hasn't.

Despite the show's title, the two-act musical features all of the characters with equal time in the spotlight.

Lucy Van Pelt (Katherine Fadum) is forever trying to understand the mystic and reluctant-romantic Schroeder (Bart Kwiatkowski), a performance which kept some people in the room laughing so hard they were gasping for air.

**"Sucking your thumb without a blanket is like eating a cone without ice cream."**

Snoopy (Stephen Delano) entertained the sold-out show last Saturday (March 26) with his tirades against the Red Baron sandwiched between episodes of his hilarious, lethargic thoughts on life and food.

After rescuing his blanket from his tyrant sister, the ever-sweet thumb-sucking Linus Van Pelt (Ryan Wagner) says, "Sucking your thumb without a blanket is like eating a cone without ice cream."

The squeaky-voiced Sally (Heather Spearman) rounds out the cast of characters.

It was Lucy's tyranny that received the loudest rounds of laughter as she dreamed of ways to become a queen, including buying her own quendom.

A live band directed by Canmore's Deb Rosen performed the show's score. The music with the singing was nearly flawless, something that surely would have delighted Peanuts creator Charles Schultz.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. for performances March 31 and April 1. Call Oh Canada Eh? 609-0004 for more information and tickets.



Schroeder (played by Bart Kwiatkowski) tries to ignore the advances made by Lucy (Katherine Fadum) during the Oh Canada Eh? production of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*.

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