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The Last Days of Judas Iscariot

Published **Monday 22 April 2013** at 13:32 by **Honour Bayes**

To say that *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* is an audacious piece of work would be something of an understatement. Stephen Adly Guirgis' metaphysical American courtroom drama puts Judas on trial and sees a wise-cracking Mother Teresa give witness testimony next to Sigmund Freud. Tackling ideas of redemption and responsibility with its tongue firmly in its cheek, Guirgis' piece walks a fine line between the pithy and philosophical.

This bombastic mixture of cartoonish caricature and spiritual catharsis needs utter conviction to carry it off. But Antony Law's production, while entertaining, is a little too self-effacing to do it justice, sitting uncomfortably between sincerity and irony.

The backdrop of St Leonards Church should add atmosphere but is not alluded to, so instead of adding energy the vaulting arches just drain it from an already overlong show.

Gratefully, some of the cast fully relish the colourful nature of this downtown purgatorial set up. Shereen Russell gleefully flaunts her right hand position to God as 'naggy' Saint Monica, while Michael Aguilo as the oily, try hard prosecution attorney is both adorable and tragic. Jeremiah O'Connor's Satan is deceptively cool, drawing you in before unleashing a wicked tongue that flays his enemies.

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Production information

St Leonard's Church, London, April 17-May 19

Author: Stephen Adly Guirgis

Director/producer: Antony Law

Cast includes: Michael Aguilo, Laurence Bouvard, Tom Greaves, Priyank Morjaria, Jeremiah O'Connor

Running time: 2hrs 45mins

Production information displayed was believed correct at time of review. Information may change over the run of the show.

[Search Amazon for The Last Days of Judas Iscariot items](#)

[Search for tickets at Ticketmaster](#)

Run sheet

St Leonard's Church, London

April 19-May 19