

Irvine High School's "Treasure Island" is a Piratical Piece That Tugs Right at The Heartstrings!
written by Millie Rosen, a junior at Capistrano Valley High School

"Treasure Island" is a reworking of a classic tale, following the trials of Jim Hawkins, a girl, as she sets out on a grand adventure for treasure, facing pursuit of the ruthless and deceptive Long John Silver.

Jim Hawkins (Alexis Lozan) with fear in her eyes, terror thick in each syllable, and in a frightened stance recounts her horrid nightmares and gains sympathy from the audience for a tortured girl. Yet, she grows, as she stands up to the terrifying pirating crew, her voice suddenly strong, gun in hand, shaking as she balances being a child forced into adult situations.

Long John Silver (Grace Gibson) with a crooked smile, soft-spoken tone, and a gravelly quality of speaking, cleverly hides the pitiless pirate she is gaining the trust of everyone. Yet, once revealed, she commands the stage, booming with anger, her movements quick and erratic, striking fear in anyone near.

Squire Trelawney (Brooklyn Walters) and Dr. Livesey (Abby Schmude) make the greatest of duos, heightened by their differences, Walters with a proper sound yet never grasping her hilarious idiotic mistakes with an unphased face. Against Schmude's powerful strut, confident movements, and calm intelligent demeanor always trying to teach Trelawney their mistakes but miserably failing.

Props (Emily Pham, Isis Staszak, Mark Pascua, Alen Ngu) utilize their boundless creativity, to hand make almost all their props, mesmerizing the audience with a flying bird puppet and life-like prosthetics. The crew details every dazzling rouge feather of the puppet and each grain in the wood of the prosthetic making them pop on the stage.

Two spiraling staircases, with 45 parts, and 90 pieces, fully made by the IHS Set Crew are a marvel with bounds of thought. Their care and craft exemplified beyond this, but every minute detail, the crew texturing the granular floors, crafting the tiled roofs of the inn, and hanging magnificent draping sails for the ship.

Marketing and Publicity (Cecelia Joseph, Tyler Do, Tara Nader, Tai Bryant) revolutionize marketing, filming an abundance of promotions like never before, and embracing the work of both actors and tech highlighting the entire department's work for their wondrous show.

With the total efforts of every single person in this production, Irvine High School's "Treasure Island" is a masterpiece of emotion, comedy, and technical skill combining into an unforgettable adventure.