



## Audience Reactions

### **Blogs:**

"The script may be full of jokes, but ... despite the lightness of the text, there's a deep thread of feminism. The traditional passive vampire victim trope is turned on its head with independently-minded female characters."

- Miss Mina Murray of the Boston Babydolls burlesque troupe

"It's big music, the kind of music most people think of when they think of opera. Reminded me of Wagner (and therefore Bugs Bunny and "kill the wabbit" on an epic scale...I can't tell you how many times I laughed out loud. Not all the lines in it are something I'd type on a blog, but it's fun and fabulous. Occasionally the juxtaposition of such lines with such music made it even funnier. And I appreciated the nods to Monty Python and Buffy the Vampire Slayer, too.

...

What this new libretto also does, along with making people laugh, is make some very pointed statements about women not being treated as men's property and about the way people tend to blame the victim. *Well, that tart shouldn't have been out alone at night. She was asking for it. What do you expect.* Too familiar to contemporary ears.

It also made the point that Della's fiancé isn't as holy as he thinks he is given that he has stood by and done nothing up until the point when Della is threatened. What, none of these other women matter? ...and so all we so-called innocent bystanders share some of the guilt for things that happen if we do nothing when we could do something.

No, it doesn't quite spell it out in such very small words, by nearly, mostly through the humor."

- Sister Sarah, Episcopal nun

### **Facebook:**

"Opera Hub and John J King are making my night! DER VAMPYR is awesome."

"John J King's new libretto for OperaHub's DER VAMPYR is delightful... This was my first exposure to opera in a long, long time, and I am SO glad I got to step out of my comfort zone for this thoroughly enjoyable production."

"Don't miss this ghoulish and provocative show, a prime example of how great opera production is alive and well in Boston."

"Gothic meets looney tunes. Comedic, anachronistic, epic. Check it out."

"OperaHub and John J King's "Der Vampyr" is ABSOLUTELY AMAZING! I was lucky enough to be in the audience last night and I was absolutely blown away."

**Feedback:**

"I've been telling my friends about the show, and they are all very disappointed to have missed it."

"We brought our kids and they LOVED IT!!! ... The opera was easy to follow and enjoyable till the end."

"Hilariously entertaining. The show did a fantastic job of taking a solid classical opera score and turning into a delightful send-up of genre conventions."

"Subversive, silly, smart"

"Enormously satisfying musically - vibrant, confident, rich. Lovely mix of humor and macabre."

"Surprising, funny, modern"

"You identified and solved all the production problems of this work"

"Terrific - highly entertaining"

"dark, sexy, humorous"

"engrossing; socially aware of today's pop culture; thoroughly, thoroughly entertaining"

"Underground, fun, cutting-edge"

"sparkling, funny, inventive"

"very clever, both lyrics and the re-telling/re-tooling"

"Lively, transcending the usual conventions of opera"