

College play receives warm response



Twelve Angry Jurors, staged by the Drama Club of Stella Maris College, drew an audience of over 1200 spread over 3 shows at Museum Theater, Egmore. An adaptation of Reginald Rose's much acclaimed teleplay, it was a complete student venture. The play revolved around a boy who has been accused of murdering his father by stabbing him with a switch knife. Twelve jurors are taken into the bleak jury room where they have to execute their duty of deciding the fate of this nineteen-year-old boy. They must all vote either guilty or nothing. With witty dialogues and impeccable rendition, it turned out to be a mature piece of dramatic literature that kept audiences on the edge of their seats.

Aditi Kuriakose, member of audience, said, "The Stella Players did an excellent job with 12 Angry Jurors. There was skepticism about an all-woman cast. But the girls did a great job and it was an excellent adaptation." Tanvi Patel, member of cast said, "We've had the annual college play in Alliance Francais for three years and the shift to Museum Theater brought in a bigger audience but also a more challenging play. We also wanted to break the pattern of comedies we have done in the past few years and leave our comfort zones."

On the challenges of staging the play, Nayantara Nayar, Director said, "There had to be a shift in the way we thought about the play, the way it was staged and so on. The play let itself to interpretation quite easily and our adaptation with its all female cast and varied takes on certain cult moments worked well." Charumathi Raman, Production Co-ordinator said, "The production process was a collaborative effort with a solid crew supporting the cast."