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FEED

THE BUTTERFLY CLUB, POETRY, TAROT READING, RACONTEUR, STORY-TELLING, SEX, POLITICS, POWER, HARES AND HYENAS, KIMBERLEY DARK, DYKEOTOMY

Review: **KIMBERLEY DARK in Good Fortune**

In Cabaret, Performances, Whats On, Events, Cabaret Review on November 30, 2011 at 10:48 am

A beguiling future was in store for a raconteur and her audience

By Adam Tonking

Do you remember the pleasure, as a child, of having a story read out loud to you?

Kimberley Dark's *Good Fortune* instantly transported me back to those long-forgotten days.

Dark is a consummate storyteller but these are not for children. They are stories from her life, that when illuminated through her telling become stories about the world at large: about **love, sex, politics, and power**.



photo by: Kate Hayne

The show was presented as **a kind of tasting platter** – 46 stories and poems from Dark's 15 years of performance, each attached to a quirky little artwork, which became **a sort of Tarot deck**, with members of the audience choosing. These pieces make up the show, with each show being **unique to the audience present**.

Dark explains that every audience has its own personality, and this method of framing the show's concept lent it an air of legitimacy, but also created **an air of mutual respect between Dark and the audience**.

Telling stories is clearly a gift for the highly-skilled Dark. While she chatted with us amiably in between stories, discussing her history and philosophies, including a few poems as a palate cleanser between stories – the moment she opened her book, she transported the audience into another world, as **only a true storyteller can**.

The tone of her voice, **from beguiling to conversational, from hypnotic to questing**, guides us through her world; but the stories themselves grow to encompass all of us. The material is **complex yet comedic, personal yet provocative**. Perhaps storytelling of this nature is a lost art, but by the end of *Good Fortune* I was completely enamoured with Dark and her tales.

Perhaps because of the nature of the audience choosing the material, **no one will have the chance to see the same**

show that I did. But go anyway, and reconnect with **those wonderful days of simply being told a good story** by someone who knows how to tell it best.

Kimberley Dark's *Good Fortune* is on for one more night, Wednesday 30th November at 8pm, at **The Butterfly Club** in South Melbourne, with tickets available at **www.thebutterflyclub.com** or at the door.

Or see her show ***Dykeotomy* at Hares and Hyenas Bookstore in Fitzroy, December 1-3**. For more information go to **www.kimberleydark.com**.

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