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Gorilla Tango's "A Nude Hope: A Star Wars Burlesque" a saucy delight

BY GEEKTOME · Saturday, July 16, 2011 9:30pm Leave a comment



Director Timothy Bambara and the cast of "A Nude Hope: floor by pointing her bottom at the audience and A Star Wars Burlesque" bending over oh-so-suggestively, the tone for the

It was a full house in attendance for the opening night of "A Nude Hope: A Star Wars

Burlesque" last Saturday night at the Gorilla

Tango Theatre. The crowd was full of fans who had come to see the latest geek-themed burlesque show, following up on the success of "Boobs and Goombahs" — the Super Mario Bros. themed show — and they came ready to hoot and holler.

When a performer dressed as a busty version of C-3PO came out with a laundry hamper decorated to look like R2-D2, setting the pseudo-droid on the floor by pointing her bottom at the audience and

evening was pretty much set.

What followed was a delightfully, saucy homage to the film that many sci-fi nerds and movie geeks credit for inspiring them in their youth. When the collective troupe of performers came out in the beginning to give their take on the classic open "A Long Time Ago, In a Galaxy Far, Far Away..." I guffawed at its ingeniousness. When "Luke Skywalker" first walked on stage and griped about needing to go to "Tosche Station to pick up some power convertors", the Star Wars geeks in the audience laughed approvingly. (I sure did.)

The show uses the plot of **Star Wars** as a template to string musical bits together, from **Obi-Wan Kenobi** using the Force to get a pair of stormtroopers to do a striptease; to **Darth Vader** getting the final say on a heckler in the audience who happens to be a **Star Trek** fan; to a Kabuki-style dance involving fans made of two halves of the **Millenium Falcon**. And it cleverly gets around the rights issue of using the actual movie soundtrack by setting the routines to 70's music. I especially enjoyed the bit when Luke and a very attractive "Chewbacca" worked the crowd for 'tips' for the dancers. I was more than ready to throw a few singles into the hat when Chewie came around with a hat, all despite the fact that her *Shyriiwook* – the language of the wookies – needed some polishing up.

Yeah, I did have a couple nerd nitpicks – like some lines that aren't quoted quite verbatim – but when Han Solo says "Let's cut the bulls**t and put this into lightspeed," I really began to wish that George Lucas had put that line in the original screenplay. In the end, the show is fun, frisky and I fell in love with a wookie.

"A Nude Hope: A Star Wars Burlesque" gets a Geek Factor rating of 4 out of 4 proton torpedoes.

Directed by Timothy Bambara

Written by M.C. Curran

Choreographed by Rachel Singer

Featuring: Bottom Heavy Betty, Diva La Vida, Zoe Drift, Hello Dali, Stella Cheeks, Maire Curiosity, Cinnamon Twist and Ginny Martini

Produced by Gorilla Tango Theatre's Geek Girl Burlesque. Show Rating – R

Advance ticket purchase is highly recommended.