

## **The Wave**

The play "The Wave" has been adapted for the stage by Paul Stebbing. It tells the story of a school experiment to show that everybody could sink into a fascistic way of life.

At the beginning the actors play Frisbee among the audience, which is very funny and makes it easy to get into the play. We see a class with average teenagers, a nerd and an outsider. The teacher tells them something about Adolf Hitler and the Nazis, which impresses the pupils. They want to find out how that could happen that so many people followed Hitler without asking or rebelling. After that the teacher starts an experiment called "The Wave". The pupils have to greet each other with a special salute. Also they have a flag and special slogans like "strength through discipline, strength through community". All these things make them feel like belonging to a big movement and so they begin to feel better than the rest and discriminate other pupils.

It is very nice how the actors show those emotions when the outsider becomes a member. Also it is very interesting that the scenery consists of only some white building blocks which they build up to everything they need. Also I like the way they sing while doing this. When the teacher ends the project he gives a speech and some of the actors sit among the audience, which makes me feel as a part of the wave. It is very impressing to see the outsider, when the teacher shows a video of Adolf Hitler to show that the wave does not differ from the Nazi-movement. All in all, it is a very good play which impresses me because of the atmosphere and the way the actors present their roles. One could say they live their roles and that is admirable.

The play is based on the book "The Wave" by Morton Rhue, which was published in 1981. I would recommend it to everyone.

Kevin