



Bitter Lemons

Bringing Los Angeles Theater together. Whether It likes it or not.

LEMONMETER TOP RATED PONDERINGS LEMONLIST THEATERS

CLOSER THAN EVER (GOOD PEOPLE THEATER): 100% – SWEET

[LemonMeter](#) | [Mar 03, 2015](#) | [Comments 0](#) |



Good People Theatre Company presents the cast of "Closer than Ever" at Hollywood Piano. Photo courtesy of company.

SWEET

A tastefully elegant production of Maltby & Shire's CLOSER THAN EVER brings the duo's beautiful and thought-provoking songs to life in the intimate performance space at Hollywood Piano in Burbank. It's a co-production between Good People Theater Company and Hollywood Piano; a partnership that means the audience gets the rare opportunity to hear the score played on a gorgeous 9½ foot Mason & Hamlin grand piano. That's a luxury most 99-seat theatre productions can't afford which makes it all the more satisfying to be able to experience it up close in a room with great acoustics and the incredibly talented Corey Hirsch making it sing.

[Ellen Dostal – BroadwayWorld](#)

SWEET

A revue that inspires its audience to reflect on their own lives while providing musical entertainment in equal measure, Closer Than Ever may be celebrating its twenty-sixth birthday, but at Hollywood Piano it is Fresher Than Ever.

[Steven Stanley – StageSceneLA](#)

SWEET

Stuckey, Withers, Kalomas, Zack ... and Hirsch – as he beautifully relays "If I Sing" – are magnificent singers/actors and move in and around and out of the space with great dramatic flair. Miller has staged the piece in a recital room at Hollywood Piano. The stage is small; performers move in and out of the door of the room, through the audience and onto the stage, sometimes sitting on the sidelines between numbers, or making exits after big dramatic moments, and quiet or brisk entrances for the next. It's almost like watching a play unfold. The space and piece seem a perfect match for one another.

[Don Grigware – Grigware Reviews](#)

SWEET

If you haven't figured it out by now, I think this production — which was produced, directed, had musical staging by Janet Miller (FB) — was spectacular. It was amazing to watch the actors up close; it was amazing to watch the musicians up close; it was amazing to watch the interaction between all the parties.... and that piano. As I've noted before, I had trouble telling how much of this was direction from Miller, and how much of it was from the actors and musicians — but you know what? It doesn't make a difference. It was seamless, reflecting the fact that this production was a collaboration between the artists. That love of the material from all parties comes across unspeakably to the audience and adds to the magic.

[Daniel Faigin – Observations Along the Road](#)

SWEET

Charmingly written by Richard Maltby Jr., with music by David Shire, and PLAYFULLY directed by Janet Miller. This intimate and relatable "slice of midlife" musical revue is DELIGHTFUL! Performed in a small theatre, inside the impressive Hollywood Piano Showroom, you'll enjoy wandering around at intermission, viewing spectacular pianos.

[Pat Taylor – Toluca Times](#)

CLOSER THAN EVER

[Good People Theater Company](#)

Hollywood Piano

323 North Front Street, Burbank, CA 91502

Through March 15, 2015

Saturdays at 3pm and 8pm. Sundays at 3pm