

(<https://www.thestage.co.uk/author/>)

Change of Heart review at New End London



THE STAGE

Adapted by Rosemary Friedman from her novel, this is based on the real-life story of Julia Polak, a heart specialist who discovered in 1995 that she herself needed a heart-lung transplant. With friends like top cardiac surgeon Magdi Yacoub, she bounced to the top of the waiting list for donated organs and had a successful transplant.

A hefty list of intriguing issues indeed and it is to the credit of writer and subject that all are addressed - and more - as Polak becomes Jesse Sands (Julie-Kate Olivier), a sick cardiologist forced to debate the ethics of queue-jumping with her husband Dermot (John Kay Steel) as well as her eminent colleagues, Gary Condes' Eduardo and Bala, played by Emilio Doorgasingh. Her dilemma is offset in the wards by the device of teenager Anna (Estelle Morgan), also awaiting a transplant, and her concerned dad, TV celeb Jack, played by Clive Moore - as well as the threat of romantic complications.

As the wilful, intelligent Jesse, Olivier leads a strong ensemble that suffers somewhat from a degree of miscasting. Only Morgan seems fully at ease, sparkling as the feisty Anna who clings to her dreams of a normal life.

Surprisingly, few of the characters or their predicaments are genuinely sympathetic. As a result, the central irony of Jesse's situation is lost - crucially fudged is her fall into scalpel fodder from the heights of the insatiable arrogance common to medical consultants.

Despite a script punctuated by impassioned Shavian pleas for further research and scientific exposition, Michael Gieleta's firm direction ensures a successful outcome for this challenging work of issues and human drama. With further tweaking, particularly in the cluttered Act II, this would make an intelligent choice for the West End.

Production Information

New End, London, February 4-March 6

Author	Rosemary Friedman
Director	Michael Gieleta
Producer	New End Theatre
Cast	Julie-Kate Olivier, Gary Condes, Emilio Doorgasingh, Clive Moore, Estelle Morgan , John Kay Steel
Running time	2hrs 40mins

([HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/INTENT/TWEET?
TEXT=CHANGE+OF+HEART+REVIEW+AT+NEW+END+LONDON&URL=HTTPS%3A%2F%2FWWW.THESTAGE.CO.UK%2FREIEWS%2F2004%2FCHANGE-OF-HEART-REVIEW-AT-NEW-END-LONDON%2F&VIA=THESTAGE\)](https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=change+of+heart+review+at+new+end+london&url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.thestage.co.uk%2freviews%2f2004%2fchange-of-heart-review-at-new-end-london%2f&via=thestage))

([HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SHARER.PHP?
U=HTTPS%3A%2F%2FWWW.THESTAGE.CO.UK%2FREIEWS%2F2004%2FCHANGE-OF-HEART-REVIEW-AT-NEW-END-LONDON%2F\)](http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=https%3a%2f%2fwww.thestage.co.uk%2freviews%2f2004%2fchange-of-heart-review-at-new-end-london%2f))

([HTTP://PINTEREST.COM/PIN/CREATE/BUTTON/?URL=HTTPS://WWW.THESTAGE.CO.UK/REVIEWS/2004/CHANGE-OF-HEART-REVIEW-AT-NEW-END-LONDON/&MEDIA=HTTPS://WWW.THESTAGE.CO.UK/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2015/02/PLACEHOLDER-2-60.JPG\)](http://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=https://www.thestage.co.uk/reviews/2004/change-of-heart-review-at-new-end-london/&media=https://www.thestage.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/placeholder-2-60.jpg))

([HTTP://PLUS.GOOGLE.COM/SHARE?URL=HTTPS://WWW.THESTAGE.CO.UK/REVIEWS/2004/CHANGE-OF-HEART-REVIEW-AT-NEW-END-LONDON/\)](http://plus.google.com/share?url=https://www.thestage.co.uk/reviews/2004/change-of-heart-review-at-new-end-london/))

PREVIOUS ARTICLE

Playlist Showcase review at Horseshoe Bar Blackpool Pleasure Beach
(<https://www.thestage.co.uk/reviews/2004/playlist-showcase-review-at-horseshoe-bar-blackpool-pleasure-beach/>)

NEXT ARTICLE

Gala de Sevilla review at Sadlers Wells London (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/reviews/2004/gala-de-sevilla-review-at-sadlers-wells-london/>)



(<https://www.thestage.co.uk/author/nick-awde/>)

Nick Awde (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/author/nick-awde/>)



Find quality roles, audition online and get cast with The Stage Castings.

Create your profile now 

THE STAGE CASTINGS
play your part

thestage.co.uk/castings

First month free

(<http://castings.thestage.co.uk/>)



- ✓ First look at The Stage every week
- ✓ The weekly edition on tablet and desktop
- ✓ Unlimited access to The Stage website

Subscribe now

([http://subscriptions.thestage.co.uk/digital-edition?](http://subscriptions.thestage.co.uk/digital-edition?utm_source=the%20stage%20digital%20banner&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=the%20s)

[utm_source=the%20stage%20digital%20banner&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=the%20s](http://subscriptions.thestage.co.uk/digital-edition?utm_source=the%20stage%20digital%20banner&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=the%20s)

(<https://www.facebook.com/thestage>) (<https://plus.google.com/+thestage/posts>)

(<http://instagram.com/thestageuk>)

(<https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-stage-media-company-ltd>)

(<https://uk.pinterest.com/thestage/>) (<https://twitter.com/TheStage>)

(<https://www.youtube.com/user/thestagenewspaper>)

Get in touch

Subscribe (http://subscriptions.thestage.co.uk/?utm_source=bottom%20navigation%20bar&utm_medium=navigation%20bar)

About The Stage (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/about/>)

Contact us (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/contact/>)

Advertising enquiries (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/advertise/>)

Where to buy The Stage (<http://bit.ly/buystage>)

Subscriptions FAQ (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/faq/>)

Scholarships FAQ (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/the-stage-scholarships-faq/>)

Login (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/wp-login.php>)

Logout (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/wp-login.php?action=logout>)

Awards

The Stage Awards (</awards>)

The Stage Edinburgh Awards

(<https://www.edfringe.com/media/award-winners#StageAward>)

UK Theatre Awards (<http://uktheatre.org/training-events/uk-theatre-awards/>)

SMA Awards

(<http://www.stagemanagementassociation.co.uk/conference/awards>)

Legal

Cookies (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/cookies/>)

Terms and conditions (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/terms/>)

Contributor agreement (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/the-stage-contributor-agreement/>)

Privacy policy (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/privacy/>)

House rules (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/house-rules/>)

Editorial

Home (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/>)

News (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/news/>)

Reviews (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/reviews/>)

Opinion (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/opinion/>)

Features (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/features/>)

Advice (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/advice/>)

More from The Stage

Training (</training>)

Archive (<http://archive.thestage.co.uk>)

Directory (<http://www.thestage.co.uk/directory/>)

Castings (<http://castings.thestage.co.uk>)

Jobs (</jobs>)

Dating (http://www.lovearts.co.uk/s/a/19425?utm_source=thestage.co.uk&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=the%20stage%20job)

Digital edition (</digital>)

Mobile apps (<https://www.thestage.co.uk/app/>)

Social media

Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/thestage>)

Twitter (<https://twitter.com/TheStage>)

Instagram (<http://instagram.com/thestageuk>)

LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-stage-company-ltd>)

Pinterest (<https://uk.pinterest.com/thestage/>)

Google+ (<https://plus.google.com/+thestage/posts>)

YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/thestagenews>)

(<https://www.thestage.co.uk>)

© Copyright The Stage Media Company Limited 2016