



**Tutte Contro Verdi (ISIFUERA SL)**

The cry 'Viva Verdi' signaled the presence of freedom fighters during the Italian Revolution and so the title of this show is also the shout of a freedom fighter! Talented actress and soprano Miren de Miguel takes a passionately different view of traditional opera, examining it as a powerful medium stereotyping women's roles in art and society. She portrays it as misogynistic, shallow and dehumanising. This is a clever piece of performance art and polemic punctuated with glorious arias sung sincerely and movingly as if in an opera performance; the poignancy of the beautiful prayer 'Ave Maria' from 'Otello' is quite hard to bear whilst the singer is fashioning a noose. Come for the arias, stay for the gender politics.

*New Town Theatre, until 17 Aug tw rating 4/5 | [Louise Rodgers]*