**“Songs for a New World”– music and lyrics by Triple- Tony Award winner Jason Robert Brown is being performed by Stone Revellers in St Michael’s Hall Stone from 22nd -25th March. Review by Gina Brian**

*Songs for a New World* is, according to composer Jason Robert Brown, “about one moment. It’s about hitting the wall and having to make a choice, or take a stand, or turn around and go back.”

With a rousing score that blends elements of pop, gospel and jazz, featuring tight harmonies and daring vocals, *Songs for a New World* transports its audience from the deck of a spanish sailing ship bound for a new land, to the ledge of a New York penthouse. Characters range from a young man in the Bronx who dreams of becoming a famous basketball player, to a forlorn and neglected Mrs. Claus lamenting as Christmas approaches.

My advice would be don’t try and look for connexions but just sit back and enjoy this production. Listen to each song and enjoy the story told. Once again this company has transformed the playing area so well, It is different every time I attend. The production is well thought out and the cast use their space very efficiently- the imaginative set is interesting and its use by the cast supports the story lines within each song.

Although the piece is most often played by 4 people, Stone Revellers use 9 in their company- there are no leads and everybody plays a full part in this production. This is a hard sing and there wasn’t a weak link, some lovely vocals – the cast is well drilled and congratulations should go to the Musical Director, Carl Gratty and also to members of his small band.

This company deserves to have full houses for this production- Congratulations to all involved including front of house staff who are always so welcoming.

Tickets can be reserved by ringing 01785 817307