

## ThreeWeeks theatre review

# What Would Helen Mirren Do?

## Anita Parry / parrymelia Productions

A one-woman play that follows the epic journey of single mother Susan Butterworth from the checkout to...well, that would be telling. Josie Melia's script doesn't threaten conventions or shift paradigms, but treats on the identity we construct for ourselves (and others) in a satisfyingly concise manner, and is likely to impress a broad demographic with its well-observed lines and effective direction. Anita Parry is massively charismatic, and impresses with a natural, effortless performance. Her impressions of DCI Tennyson are delightful, but she deserves more kudos for her handling of the show's bittersweet moments. To call this production 'feel-good' would be to understate and condescend; it scratches at deeper truths. Anybody with a mother will be touched.

Hill Street Theatre, 5 - 22 Aug (not 10, 17), 7.25pm, £7.00 - £9.00, fpp 303

tw rating: 4/5

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## ThreeWeeks Rating Key

1/5: Bad    2/5: Mediocre    3/5: Good    4/5: Very Good    5/5: Excellent