## Edinburgh Festival Fringe -La Clique Royale\*\*\*\*

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If like some of us you really don't know what to choose from the biblically proportioned Fringe Guide, then this is possibly the very show for you. It is bit like an old time variety, with artists well able to demonstrate a multitude of very well-honed talents, and who are poised to royally entertain you. There are shades of Cabaret here too, with loud make-up and huge false eyelashes that would knock you out.

Some of the performers actually have shows of their own, but La Clique Royale offers them an opportunity to give you a wee taster for those. And it is true to say that you will want to see more. There are acrobatics, singing, comedy, magic, slapstick (absolutely of its own kind however!) and real majesty here. Her Maj, otherwise Gerry Connolly, opens the show complete with tiara and handbag, but making a speech that the real thing might want to make, rather than what she would be obliged to say.

The trapeze artists should really be in London competing for medals, (although they might have to wear a little more than they do) but these girls, <u>The Wau Wau Sisters</u>, compete instead for laughs, and a little bit of your heart. They are extremely talented and are on tonight 8 August 2012 at 6.30pm in the Spiegeltent as well as taking part in the later performance of La Clique Royale at the same venue. If you miss them today, then they are on again on Monday 13 August 2012 in their own show at 8.00pm.

One of the rather more interactive sets (yes sit at the end of the row and he may well leap on you!) was the Balkan Elvis. <u>Mikelangelo</u>, who plays the piano accordion and sings in a deep

crooning voice which cannot fail to entertain you. He also has his own show in the Spiegeltent on 13 & 20 August. In those performances he will have a seven-piece backing band playing Balkan gypsy style music, but at La Clique he sings solo, allowing you to enjoy his full vocal abilities and to marvel at his beautifully coiffed hair...

Along with an MC who multitasks as a comedian and magician too, and skilfully so, there were other sets involving muchpractised acts of balance and aerial acrobatics by goodlooking young men. So you can see that this is really a show with something for everyone. Be prepared to be entertained. But don't sit back and relax, as the pace and the sights will leave you breathless.

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