

## **A Review of Christmas at the Small Empire Music Hall**

By Jack Wooldridge

Christmas at the Small Empire Music Hall is a wonderfully funny, haphazard musical performed so slickly that you always seem to be moving on to the next thing as soon as you've taken in the first. It basically follows the lives of a very eccentric (and I mean really eccentric) group of actors, dancers and singers who belong to the Small Empire Music Hall.

There's Cedric, an old and grumbling fellow with a heart of lead, Jack, a man who is always going after women, despite his wife's complaints, Edith, Cedric's former wife who says she'd rather rot than marry him again, Arthur, a young and aspiring star who unfortunately just doesn't have the talent to succeed and finally Glynis, Arthur's assistant in his acts and who is definitely better at singing and acting than he is. The play follows these characters through the period before world war one, through WW1, and after the war is over. It was a beautiful play, funny, and yet in parts quite moving. I would recommend you go and see it but it is now over. Oh well.