

## The Herald

Mary Brennan

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**White, Traverse @ Scottish BookTrust**

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Lola might well declare *White*, the new Catherine Wheels production for two to four-year-olds, to be her “favourite and her best” Fringe show. She’d probably want to live in the delectable all-white set designed by Shona Reppe, a forest of little birdhouses, even a wee tepee for Cotton (Andy Manley) and Wrinkle (Ian Cameron), all in a medley of fabrics and textures with not a smidgeon of colour in sight. When a scrap of green appears, Wrinkle is adamant: “Bin it!” Then it’s back to work, collecting and looking after the white eggs that fall from the sky.

The advent of a red egg unstitches everything, of course. And for a genuinely challenging moment for the early years audience, it looks as if the red egg will be binned. One little lad was appalled and wanted to know “why???” – proving that even tiddlers can do joined-up ethics and visual metaphors if guided by inspired art.

This truly beautiful show crafts its ideas with a light, but sophisticated touch – you really can’t suss how the all-white world suddenly blooms into vibrant technicolour, but you can, whatever your age, engage with the joy and wonderment as bird-houses open up in a new-found radiance of rainbow brightness.