

## 69 Love Songs Talkback

Welcome to the talkback, this is a chance to ask questions and give feedback to the creators of this production, it will last around 30 minutes, so if you can stick around, that would be much appreciated.

Let's start with some introductions, I'm Aysha, I use she/her pronouns, and I am the talkback facilitator on this production! [insert all the cast and creative team's intros here]

The purpose of this talkback is for the creators to hear your reactions that they can carry with them as they continue to work on this piece in the future. I would ask you all to keep your feedback focused on the dialogue and the songs, rather than more visual elements you saw on stage.

We're going to be following Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process, which is outlined on the back of your programs if you'd like to follow along or take notes as we talk. This process includes 4 stages: two where I'll be asking you questions, and two where you get to ask your own questions and share feedback with the creators. I'll be explaining everything more as we go along.

Before we start, I want to talk about one very important part of this process: understanding the difference between reaction, opinion, and suggestion. Reactions are your own feelings that came up during the piece, that immediate gut reaction, that emotional response. Those are really valuable for the creators to hear. If you can articulate how something made you feel, absolutely go for it. Opinions are a little bit more tricky, try to be really specific to what the question is asking, that way the feedback will get to the heart of what the creators want to know. Lastly, suggestions are exactly what they sound like. If you noticed something you think could be improved, rather than stating a problem or potential solution, there will be a time for you to ask the creators questions that might give you more insight into why they made that choice.

So with that, we'll start with statements of meaning, and I'll ask you some questions about what has stuck with you.

To start, take a few seconds to think of one word you think encapsulates the show you just saw... alright, feel free to just throw them out there.

My next question is, what did you find delightful in this show? What brought you joy? If you could raise your hands, and start with your name and pronouns if you're comfortable sharing...

What did you find surprising?

What did you find meaningful?

Now we're going to move into some questions I have from Wendy and Izadorius, the incredible creators of this show. Their first question is: what does the phrase queer fantasia mean to you, and how does this show relate to that?

What character do you feel most connected to?

Now we'll be moving into the section where you get to ask the cast and creative team questions! The Critical Response Process specifies that these should be neutral questions, questions that don't have an opinion hidden in them... for example, instead of saying, why was the cake so dry, you might say, what kind of texture are you aiming for with this cake? Instead of saying, how do you expect an audience to understand that scene?, you might say, how are you hoping the audience will experience that scene?... So with that in mind, before you pose a question, take a moment and consider what opinion your question might be hiding. How can you frame your question to gain insight without a sense of judgment?... With that, who's got the first question?

This final portion of the talkback is an opportunity for you to share your opinions about the piece, and the creators can decide if they'd like to

receive that feedback and possibly respond. The way this works is you'll raise your hand, I'll call on you, you can introduce yourself if you'd like, and you'll say "I have an opinion about \_\_\_\_\_, would you like to hear it?" The answer might be "no, thank you" and that's alright! There's no shame in that, it just means that that's not what the creators would like to focus their attention on... This feedback should be centered around the script and story, and should stay away from suggestion territory. Great, again, the phrasing is "I have an opinion about \_\_\_\_\_, would you like to hear it?" Go ahead and raise your hand if you'd like to offer something.