



# Adelaide Theatre Guide

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## **NGURRUMILMARRIRIYU (WRONG SKIN)**

**Adelaide Festival of Arts**

**Her Majesty's Theatre**

Until 14 Mar 2010

Review by Maggie Wood

The Chooky Dancers from Elcho Island off the North East coast of Arnhem Land have charmed more than 1.3 million viewers on Youtube with their Zorba the Greek routine. They managed also to charm a theatre full of people in Adelaide with their show "Wrong Skin".

Like Romeo and Juliet, two star crossed lovers find their path to bliss doomed because they come from unacceptable parts of the clan. The 'serious' story is in fact an opportunity for the Chooky Dancers to strut their stuff.

The instances of interpretation of the more serious parts of the story are good, but the great parts are those where technology, western and aboriginal culture intermingle to produce both belly laughs and admiration – especially numbers such as the Singing in the Rain section. Gene Kelly never busted moves like this!

The Chooky Dancers have won peoples' hearts. They have a rare chance to be ambassadors not only for their culture, but their generation which is caught between the old ways and the new. To their credit they manage to integrate the two beautifully, helped along by people like Director Nigel Jamieson.

They're pure entertainment and long may they continue.