

## **”A Number” – with That Theatre – Østerbro**

21 feb 2018

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Reviewed by Ulla Stromberg / Kulturkupeen

That Theatre Company based in Krudttønden in Copenhagen is always worth a visit. The company plays “British Theatre” in both content and style. They perform in English and don’t shy away from difficult subjects without pandering to whatever is the trend of the day. An example is their production of “A Number” written by veteran feminist Caryl Churchill, that is sometimes a brutal experience for the audience.

If we only went to the theatre to be entertained A Number would be a bitter pill to swallow, but if you like intelligent “debate-theatre” and like to go home with plenty to think about, this well-played piece is a must.

The central theme of cloning is current and on our doorstep and I can’t think of that many plays about cloning or genetic engineering.

What would you do if you discovered that you weren’t unique, but that there were in fact many copies of you? In A Number a young man finds out that his father has been less than economical with the truth. At the age of 35 he realises that he is not unique despite being led to believe that all his life. More copies are out there, and they are all played convincingly by Rasmus Emil Mortensen.

The short and fast paced 60 - minute piece is presented as a crime-story – I won’t give away too much here, but will say welcome to a brave new world – in a recognizable format. Cloning could be taking place while you’re reading this as we

don't really know what doctors get up to behind closed doors after they've finished taking care of their other patients.

Ian Burns plays the father in a shroud of mystery that's difficult to fathom, but my conclusion is that he's the one who has set all this in motion.

*It's never the child's fault – it's their parents and their environment.* Here are a few starting points for discussion and the kernel of the central theme of Churchill's play. Namely, *Nature versus Nurture.*

**SCRIPT** Caryl Churchill

**DIRECTOR** Helen Parry

**CAST** Ian Burns & Rasmus Emil Mortensen

Feb. 21 – March 24 2018

Mon – Fri 8pm

Sat. 5pm

Playing time: 1 hour

From 15 years old

[www.that-theatre.com](http://www.that-theatre.com)

[a number](#), [anmeldelse](#), [Caryl Churchill](#), [Helen Parry](#), [ian burns](#), [Krudttønden](#), [rasmus emil mortensen](#), [that theatre](#)