

THEATRE AND VISUAL ARTS



THEATRE

THE DOLLHOUSE

Adapted by Daniel Schlusser

Fortyfivedownstairs, 45 Flinders Lane,
city, 9662 9966. Until September 25.

Director Daniel Schlusser has developed a method of interpretation that's all the more impressive for its humility — less about producing some consistent “Schlusser look” than creating an immediate connection between audience and text. Here he reimagines Ibsen's classic as a savage dissection of relationships in a post-feminist age. Nikki Shiels's Nora is selfish but ultimately deserving of our compassion, while her husband is an emotional bear-trap of a man. The design elements are just as stunning. Raw and funny, with a quietly devastating impact.

John Bailey