

Huffington Post Prairie-oke Review

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Prairie-oke!: Big Hits and Big Laughs at Silver Lake's Cavern Club

What do the following pop culture touchstones have in common: The B-52s, Melissa Manchester, Guns n Roses, *The Exorcist*, *Glee*, and the classic TV series set in the 1880s starring Michael Landon and Melissa Gilbert that ran on NBC from 1974 to 1983? The answer is of course, *Prairie-oke!*, the latest, hilariously warped theatre mashup musical from L.A. based writer/director, Dane Whitlock, who brought us last year's hit, *Are You There God? It's Me, Karen Carpenter*. Highlighted by effervescent choreography by Joseph Corella, the lively *Prairie-oke!* is as endearing as it is demented.

Long one of L.A.'s best cross-generational theatres, The Cavern Club is having a banner year with a playful, cheery, inventive lineup of pop culture confections highlighted by *Chico's Angels* (returning in October), *Connie Loves Juice*, *The Madonna-logues*, and now, *Prairie-oke!*, the year's most mirthful musical parody thanks in large part to its wildly talented ensemble including Drew Droege, Libby Baker, Tom Lowe, Joe Donohoe, Amy Procacci, Brad Griffith, Mark Rowe, Jennifer Blake, Sydney Blair, Rae Dawn Hadinger, Frances Chewning, and a super-fun to watch Matthew Herrmann.

This will be the final weekend for *Prairie-oke!* (August 23 - 25): Fridays and Saturdays at 9, Sundays at 7 at Casita del Campo, 1920 Hyperion in Silverlake.