

Acrobats display high skills with no-frills

CIRCUS
Unsuitable
Big Top
 REVIEW **CLARISSA PHILLIPS**

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Belfast performers Tumble Circus have returned to Fringe World with their latest show *Unsuitable*.

They combine traditional circus feats with often-political

storytelling in this quirky, raw performance.

This is a no-frills circus. Their costumes are basic — they wear what looks like men's underwear and white Bonds-style singlets.

Some of their props are slapped together with cardboard and masking tape, and there is no obvious apparatus to protect them if something goes wrong.

But this adds to the magic of what the troupe of five delivers in 70 minutes.

The gang of acrobats and aerialists tumble from silks, swing from the rafters and soar above the crowd in death-defying trapeze acts, and cartwheel, yes, cartwheel, along a tightrope with ease.

The intimate setting of the Big Top allows the audience to see every slight movement and

every muscle straining, putting them in awe of what these performers make look very easy.

As the title suggests, there are snippets of the show that some may deem "unsuitable".

They weave in stories of life in Ireland — their prime minister, their laws and the outdated rules that apply to women.

But the controversial topics

do not take away from the athleticism, strength and skill each acrobat displays. Plus they balance it with plenty of laughs.

The real strength in this show lies in the fact that these are five incredible performers who clearly love what they do.

Unsuitable is on until Saturday.

'TRULY MAGNIFICENT ... JAW-DROPPING STUFF.'

PerthNow

SELLING FAST



The laughs are plentiful in *Unsuitable*.

