

Choir critique assignment

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**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

To make up for the holiday concert missed, I went to church on Sunday, Jan. 20 to critique the choir there. It was at Life Center in Tacoma, with the choir being made up of about 20 people; there were equal amounts of men and women singing. The service started at 10: 30 a. M. , with the first song, (which was more of a hymn) Bless the Lord Oh my Soul contemporaries sung by Matt Redden. The songs which were sung that day did have contemporary versions, but were sung usually capable or with only a piano.

There was one instance where the audience was expected to sing with the choir, too. What I noticed from the choir during this first song was that every single person was singing with pure emotion, naturally swaying with the beat of the song throughout. I could completely tell that they felt the rhythm of the song because they kept the tempo at a steady pace, but filled their voices with energy. The next song was The Only One being sung by a man named Manson Adkins, who was the soloist.

This song wasn't considered as classical choral material, but Manson did an excellent job at keeping the same tone quality through the different ranges of the song; when the notes were starting to get a little high for his range, he didn't force the notes out, but instead let them naturally flow through. Next, the choir sang We Wait by Don Moon, with Matt leading the song with the piano. When the choir broke into the five part harmony, however, the men were overpowering the women and could've listened better to improve their intonation.

In other words, they were really sticking out among the other parts. Another song was Nothing but the Blood, also a hymn. In this song, the choir blended

so well because everyone's vowels matched. It made it easier to understand the text, too, because of that. One imperfection I heard was that at the end, everyone finished their note at different spots, making the ending sound a little sloppy. Later, the choir sang If Not For Your Grace. And Brandon Stanley stepped up to the microphone to sing a solo, with the choir singing softly in the background.

Something else that caught my attention was how little the Hyannis were in this song. It was as if the song practically had no dynamics, because the choir didn't drastically change the volume of their voices. The last and final song was God be Praised was when the choir invited the audience to join in. It was more of a version made for a choir, not for a single soloist. This was sung capable, and similar to the first song, the people were singing with smiles in their eyes; the feeling of the song spread everywhere in the room, and their voices practically "tickled the ceiling".

The choir had numerous vocalists, and in the middle of the song, the choir split into a five-part harmony. I don't exactly know if it was intended, but I also heard that the men's voices were again overpowering the women's. Overall, the performance was stupendous, with only a few minor mistakes that the choir needed to work on. Choir Critique By defending To make up for the holiday concert I missed, I went to church on Sunday, Jan. 20 to into the five part harmony, however, the men were overpowering the women and could've listened better to improve their intonation.

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