
Review of Fall Jazz Concert 2019 by Mary Kolbas

The Fall Jazz Concert on Sunday, November 10 was an amazing portrayal of the talented jazz musicians in the PA, both as soloists and as ensembles. The Fall Jazz Concert combined three of the Triangle Youth Jazz groups supported by the PA - TYJB, TYJO, and TYJE - each showing off their own strengths and expressive capabilities.

The concert started with TYJB, and despite typically having the youngest musicians of the three, had a great blend and an overall smooth sound that allowed their various soloists to shine. Kaitlyn Salmonson's muted trumpet solo in "Bye Bye Blackbird" and the fast-moving "You'd Be So Nice To Come Home To" offered several different textures that were exciting to listen to. Personally, I got chills from "Orange Colored Sky" due to the band's impressive control of dynamics to create tension and TYJB's vocalist Ria Kolte.

TYJO's portion of the concert provided many more pieces, showcasing their impressive dynamic range and involvement within the music. Many songs required trading of the melody and interactions between different instruments. The musicians clearly had the groove and attitude to portray the emotions of each piece. Vocalist Noelle Defelice, as well as the many instrumental soloists, all gave each piece personality that made it even more impressive to listen to. I especially liked the comping of the rhythm section and powerful low brass that supported the ensemble, particularly noticeable in "Shiny Stockings".

Last but certainly not least, TYJE presented several challenging tunes that showed off both its soloists and the group as a whole. I was incredibly impressed with the musicians' control of the music, providing tension and release through dynamics and staying very together with a very unified, bold sound. The variance of the underlying rhythms, especially in "Old Man Blues" was refreshing and caught my attention. I loved TYJE director Greg Gelb's arrangement of "Cherokee" with its complex harmonies and talented soloists, featuring Will Hazelhurst, Sean Murdy, Sam Stage, Collin Waugh - and many more musicians throughout the program. (Adithya Sriram on baritone saxophone was really cool to listen to!)

The Fall Jazz Concert was an excellent display of the PA Jazz musician's capabilities and musicality. Especially in each ensemble's last piece, I could tell the musicians were enjoying themselves and having a good time. As one of my first jazz concerts, these ensembles left an amazing impression on me - I'm definitely keeping my eye out for their next performance!

Review of Jazz Fall Concert 2019 by Natalie Wiese

On Sunday, November 10th, I had the opportunity to attend the Raleigh Philharmonic Association's Fall Jazz Concert at the Cary Art Center. For the past years I have been playing cello in the Philharmonic orchestras, but I never went to any of the PA jazz concerts. This year though, my brother joined TYJB and it was the perfect reason for me to come and listen to the Jazz concert.

I am really glad I came to see the concert perform as it was a lively event with enthusiastic jazz musicians playing their solos boldly, the audience excitedly clapping and cheering throughout pieces, and even the conductor swinging along with the beat of the music. The music also had a surprising amount of variety to it. There were songs that featured a singer, while other songs would have parts with solo

instruments. Both of the singers did a fantastic job of enhancing the jazz experience through their energy that they brought to the audience through their voices. The music that was picked out for the jazz concert did a really good job at showcasing all the talented musicians and their various techniques. One of my favorite solos was in the song "Rocks In My Bed" by Ella Fitzgerald when a sax played a solo featuring jazzy sounding slides into many of the notes. This was very fun to listen to. I also enjoyed observing the jazz musicians using techniques not used in the full orchestras I have played it. One of my favorite sounding techniques that I observed during the jazz concert was the brass sections taking mutes on and off while playing which added a very awesome funky sound to the music.

It was great to listen all three of the PA's jazz groups play their music in a single concert. All three bands were outstanding in their ability and the music was so fun to listen to and watch. I am glad I chose to attend a concert I would not normally have attended and look forward to future jazz concerts.
