

All That Jazz

Vox 9 Musical Group Hits All the Right Notes at Concordia

By Victoria Vasterling

On Friday November 12th, Concordia Music Department hosted a concert of the vocal jazz group Vox 9 and the jazz ensembles. This concert was absolutely astounding! When the concert started off with the Jazz Ensemble, it was evident that the concert was going to be fun for all.

During their first song - "Do Lord" by Julia Ward Howe - they invited the audience to sing along. They continued with their energizing performance with "Caravan" by Jaun Tizol and "La Murga" by Willie Colon and Hector Lavoe. The Jazz Combo then took over the stage with a very smooth and easygoing performance of "Satin Doll" by Duke Ellington and "Autumn Leaves" by Joseph Kosma.

The evening progressed with the Contemporary Ensemble giving an exciting presentation of "Jackie Wilson Said" by Van Morrison and "Chain of Fools" by Don Covay. Vox 9, the vocal jazz group, then performed the longest set list of the concert. They performed seven songs including "I'm Glad There is You" arranged by Phil Mattson, "Getting to Know You" by Rodgers & Hammerstein (arranged by Gene Puerling), and "What a Wonderful World" by Thiele and Weiss (arranged by Phil Mattson).

Vox 9 gave a lovely performance with amazingly complex eight part harmonies. They had a very bright sound that gave new life to familiar songs. The final song of the event, performed once again by the Contemporary Ensemble, was "Superstition" by Stevie Wonder. This was a spectacular way to end the evening made even better by the ensemble moving to the rhythm in unison.

All the performers did an outstanding job. The soloists played skillfully and the instrumentalists played in beautiful unity. From the beginning to the end, this concert was engaging and fun. While, at the same time, showing vast amounts of competence from all the performers. We are very blessed to have access to such an abundance of talent here at Concordia.



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TOP FIVE HOLIDAY GIFTS

By Savannah Nolen

Are you broke as a joke and out of ideas for gifts? Read below.

1. **Books from Urban Outfitters:** Starting at prices from fifteen dollars on you can find intriguing books that will suit any person that you are shopping for. There are eclectic books such as *How to Design a Chair* by Design Museum and even *I Hate Everything* by Matthew Diebenedetti.
2. **Products by Burt's Bees:** Burt's Bees makes natural products for the earth friendly individuals. There products can be for men, women, and even babies. With everything from toothpaste to feet lotion, you can find many individual gifts, or even gift sets to please friends on your holiday list.
3. **Gift Certificates:** For the hard to please, gift certificates are always the best option. You can please a tricky individual by throwing a gift certificate to Chipotle or a movie theatre their way.
4. **Mittens:** Let's face the truth: in Minnesota mittens are always a necessity. I found mine—which are wool with a fun design— at Quince on Grand Avenue for fifteen dollars.
5. And last but not least, here is a little secret for the online shoppers. **The15dollarstore.com.** Here you can find clothes and accessories for only fifteen dollars. Everything is marked down to the same price and you can find anything from Geneva rhinestone watches, to Perry Ellis wallets for your dad or boyfriend. I hope this helps ease the pain of shopping on a college budget. Happy Holidays!

Moby Dick Play Review

A whale of a tale earns ★★★★★

By William Lange

Concordia's Theater department put on a four cast member showing of *Moby Dick*. Located in the Black Box, this single set play adapted from Herman Melville's book lasted 70 minutes with no intermission.

The play starred Brennan Blomgren as Ahab, captain of the Pequod and Brittany Pitts as Ishmael. They were supported by Andrew Eckhardt as Queequeg and Kelsey Lee as Stubb. Together, the four brought Melville's play to life through the direction of Mark Rosenwinkel.

The play started out with a shaky solo, which was turned into an empowering four part melody to set the tone of the show. After the song, Ishmael requests to be a part of Ahab's whaling crew.

Ishmael is warned by Queequeg and Stubb about Ahab's drive to get the white whale who took his leg. Once aboard the ship and apart of the crew, Ishmael begins to log the journey in a diary. At this point in the tale, Queequeg opens up to Ishmael, revealing his past and how he is home sick.

Queequeg's desire to go home could not come at a worse time. Ahab returns from another whaling ship, the Rachel, to set a new course to hunt Moby Dick. Ishmael and Queequeg are then struggling to keep their sanity: Queequeg builds himself a coffin, paranoid of dying and left at sea. Ahab and his shipmates make the three days journey to find Moby Dick.

On the third day, Moby Dick arose from the ocean and crushed Ahab's ship. Ishmael, the ships only survivor, floated in the ocean until picked up by the Rachel, in the area looking for its lost children, only to find the Pequod's orphan.

Although the play had only four actors, they did a good job at filling out the entire black box, leaving the audience feeling surrounded. Queequeg's outstanding makeup design and Brennan's convincing acting helped make the play unique and moved it along very well. Overall, I give this production 4.5 stars out of 5.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Book Study Guide

Refresh you memory or preview

new themes before seeing the movie **By Tara Rupiper**

Say goodbye to Harry Potter because this is the last in the series! *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* is the last installment of J.K. Rowling's epic series. In the last installment, Harry and his friends embark on a wild adventure that will decide if Harry will live another day or face the deadly Lord Voldemort. This is not another year at Hogwarts of Witch Craft and Wizardry. This year Harry, Ron, and Hermione are on the run to find the deadly Horcruxes to be able to defeat the notorious Lord Voldemort. Along the way they meet more wonderful and terrible creatures. They also run into some friends along the way like Dobby, Griphook, Luna Lovegood, Dean Thomas, and the famous wand maker Ollivander. This book is full of adventure, surprises, and the ability to look death in its face. I personally have been a fan of the Harry Potter series since I was in elementary school. When this book first came



out, I wanted to get it right away. I thought that the book was beautifully written. J.K. Rowling does an amazing job at bringing the characters, creatures, and surroundings to life. Her characters are very relatable to a lot of people. People like to be able to relate to a character in a book because it makes the character more real. There was a lot of debate on whether or not Harry was going to die or not. Some people thought that he should have died while others thought that if Harry died all of the things that Dumbledore had prepared Harry for would have been for nothing. This epic tale is an intense and somewhat depressing story about a boy coming into himself and finding that there is good in the world even in the darkest of places.