

## Note-Ability Choir

What a lovely evening of music! Just caught a wonderful a cappella concert by Nottingham's Note-Ability Choir at the fabulous performance space at West Bridgford Baptist Church, and I'm still

buzzing from it.



This small but mighty choir (4 voices to a part) tackled an ambitious and varied programme - from Renaissance madrigals (Lassus and Morley) through sacred works to spirituals, barbershop, and even some jazzy numbers. All completely unaccompanied, which is no mean feat!

Opening with the uplifting "How Can I Keep From Singing?", the tuning throughout the concert was spot-on, and the quiet, delicate singing was absolutely beautiful. Caroline, the choir director, was brilliant to watch too - you could see the music flowing through her. The King's Singers section showed wonderful versatility, from the touching "When She Loved Me" to the humorous "Short People".

The second half really soared, launched perfectly by "Why We Sing". The spirituals section (Swing Low, All My Trials, and Battle of Jericho) was a definite highlight, the emotion and intensity of the music stood out.

Special mention for the pieces where the choir performed from memory with movement - "Name That Tune" at the end of the first half and "Soul Bossa Nova" were such fun, and the barbershop section was a treat. Impressive that both "When I See an Elephant Fly" and the encore "Irish Blessing" were arranged/composed by members of the choir - real talent! Sending us on our way with the encore "Irish Blessing" was a beautiful way to end the concert.

You could tell this isn't just a choir but a group of genuine friends who love making music together, and that joy was infectious. A couple of tiny moments where the ensemble got a touch rushed, but honestly 99% was incredibly tight - hats off to this amateur group tackling some seriously challenging repertoire.

Oh, and the interval cakes were an excellent bonus!



Thoroughly enjoyable evening. Well done to all at Note-Ability!