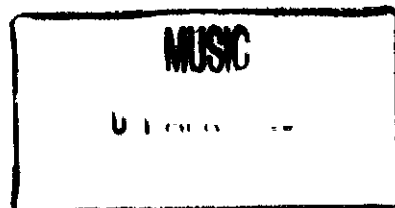


ENTERPRISE MUSIC SCOTLAND

**Westbourne Music
The Swing Cats
Merchant Hall, Glasgow
Thursday, 31 March 2005 – 12.45 pm**



**Alyson Orr, Laura Ellis, Nicola Auld – vocals
Karen MacIver - piano**

Quality of production - 8

This female vocal trio gave an hour's concert of standards from the 30s, 40s and 50s. They have worked together for some years and their ensemble is good – they are very musical and attractive to watch. They give a confident, relaxed performance and put an audience at ease.

Vision and imagination - 7

This is a standard programme covering a well known period of popular music. It is what it is, and there is not much more that the quartet could do with it.

Performers –8

Good. All the singers were good – very idiomatic - and Karen MacIver was an outstanding pianist. I think some of the arrangements were hers. One or other of the singers introduced the items.

Quality of presentation – 6

The concert was professionally presented. The singers were amplified – there was no special lighting. However, I found the occasion fairly dispiriting. The kind of music and the style of performance were really neither suited to the venue, nor to the time of day. I felt it needed a more intimate setting and a more relaxed atmosphere.

Audience – 7

A nearly capacity audience – approximately 120 people. The age range was middle-aged to elderly and though they applauded enthusiastically, they were relentlessly unswinging. The musicians were working very hard but to me the concert just didn't really get going.

Educational value – n/a.

EMS 23.03.05 (cont.)

Suitability of venue - 5

See above. Merchants Hall is a very imposing, official building with a fine panelled hall. But it does not lend itself to an informal, more relaxed performance such as this. It has all the facilities an audience could need, including a room where lunch is available for an hour before the performance.

Information/interpretive material – 7

The programme listed the numbers to be performed and provided a biographical note about the group.

Publicity/pre publicity – 6

I was aware of none. Some of the audience would be subscribers through Westbourne Music. There was a lot of activity at the ticket desk at the door. Few empty seats.

Ease of booking – 10

I bought my ticket at the door. Tickets were priced at £5, £4.50 (senior concession) and £2(students).

Location of venue – 10

Could not be more central. It is located on the corner of George Square, virtually adjacent to Queen Street Station.

External signage and signposting –8

Good. A large A-board was placed on the pavement at the corner of the building, advertising the concert and the lunch facilities.

Internal directional signage – 10

Everything was obviously located and signed.

Access and provision for disabled people – 8

There is a lift on the ground floor. There are a few steps to be negotiated from street level. A ramp is available if required.

Timing of the event – 10

Fine.

Customer service – 10

Front of house helpful. There were no ushers – none needed.

SAC funding acknowledgement – 2

Same difficulty as with the Kirkcaldy Music Society concert and I realise that it is because the SAC acknowledgement is incorporated within the Enterprise Music Scotland logo. There is just too much information to be included for it to be legible when space is limited (see programme enclosed).

31 March 2005