



Liam Murphy reports

Between the Lines

Liam Murphy casts an eye on the local Theatre Scene
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Classical Movie Classics

LET'S hear it for Kevin O'Carroll and Liam Daly of Symphony Club of Waterford for a splendid symphonic concert in The Large Room. The title might be a little clunky but the content was glorious. The Waterford Concert Orchestra, a forty plus symphonic band, presented Classical Movie Classics, based on the impact and adaptation of classical music into films and added to that an excellent tribute to John Williams and his wonderful contribution to movie music. Add to this the excellent Madrigallery, singing in the gallery/balcony/shelf and this was a glorious night and such a blast of exciting music.

At first thinking, the Large

Room might not be considered ideal for a large orchestra as it might depend on where you are sitting (I remember a Wexford Sinfonia there and the sound clattered and bounced). The orchestra took up more than a third of the room but the atmosphere was anticipatory and eager. I had hurried from another venue and with a crowd for Richie Hayes in the Royal and the Symphony Club members, there was such a buzz in the building. Kevin O'Carroll conducted with attack and dedication and his witty and informative introductions added to the fine programme notes.

A slice of Finlandia set the tough-guy tone from The Hunt For Red October and Die Hard 2 and then Stephen Mackey on clarinet created the Mozart mood for the wide open vistas of Out Of Africa. Madrigallery singing in German lifted the spirits with Jesu Joy Of Man's Desiring, from Minority Report. Sinead O'Carroll on piano and Ruby Ashley (oboe) were wonderful on Satie's work from Woody Allen's almost flop, Another Woman.

Madrigallery were again excellent for Lacrymosa from Mozart's Requiem as used in Amadeus. There was fun with the Alfred Hitchcock Presents theme, Funeral March of a Marionette and Elgar's pomp and Circumstance March No.1 (Land Of Hope And Glory) from A Clockwork Orange rocked the venue. I just cannot understand why this audience just sat there. I wanted to be up and waving an imaginary flag and expressing my pleasure for this musical occasion.

After the interval, a Char-

pentier Fanfare used in the Eurovision settled the audience for a glorious Arthur Sullivan Overture from Yeoman of the Guard, with fine bassoon and trombone sounds. Sweet memories of the Opera Festival. Madrigallery delighted on the Humming Chorus (Madam Butterfly), used in Natural Born Killers and Claire O'Donnell (harp) added much to the string section.

Then it was high heaven, a glorious place, a thrill of emotion, a rush of sound for the John Williams section. The poignant and powerful Hymn to The Fallen, from Saving Private Ryan, with horns and drums and choir and then the Symphonic Dances from Fiddler On The Roof, with Stephen Mackey (clarinet) in wonderful form as the flutes of Jenny Burns and Gerard Dower pirouetted in sound.

Teresa Costello (violin) was quality with I Could Have Done More, from Schindler's List and this was symphonic beauty before a medley of popular themes, like Star Wars, Jaws and ET, rocked the house. What a finale and, for the life of me, this audience sat there and did not rise in ovation. Yes, the applause was warm and sustained but I wanted whoopin' and hollerin'.

Kevin O'Carroll and the Waterford Concert Orchestra will perform The Snowman on Sunday, 2 December in Doolley's Hotel. He will also direct Vocals, a choral ensemble in a Ceremony of Carols in the beautiful De La Salle College Chapel on 13 December. In January 2013 Madrigallery and orchestra will present the won-

derful The Armed Man by Karl Jenkins. It just gets better and better in musical Waterford, thanks to Kevin O'Carroll.