

ORDO VIRTUTUM / O GREENEST BRANCH

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Friday, October 22, 2021

Last night's performance was exquisite. The voices, the location, the acoustics, & the costumes were perfect. I felt like I was listening to angels and Gregorian chants at the same time. The audience reading at the start was novel and engaging. The use of the fabric to show the attraction between the Devil and Anima was super effective. As an early (first?) morality play and opera, this was a fascinating piece of history. The beauty of the church, plus the serenity I felt there, enhanced the visual and the aural experience. Rolfe's piece was an excellent companion. As always Janice's voice was a perfect fit. It enhanced the story. Such sadness.

Hildegard of Bingen's "Ordo Virtutum" is transcendent. Even without the beautiful pantomime of the defeat of vice, the harmonies release something still bound inside: hope. O Greenest Branch voices the honor and fury of catastrophic loss then lifts the lament up to join all who sorrow. As the first live performance I have attended since the winter of 2020 this matched and uplifted all the terror and loss of the pandemic.

This evening was a rare treat and I'm so happy I could be here in person and not have to jet to New York or London to experience quality music.

Very moving and thought provoking. My thoughts are not clear, but it spoke strongly to my feeling about the Christian religion and the persecution of Jews.

Glorious moving pieces! Great setting and costumes! The voices were so well chosen and blended.

From the old to the new – the ancient and modern – this performance was so well sung by each voice involved, blending from note one to the final sung utterance. Plus, each selection complimented the other tremendously. With such texts of death and hell come the most beautiful and constant sounds.

No book off the shelves could have given the gift this performance did. Astounding artistry, glimmering sound.

An amazing performance. Wow!!

Extraordinary experience! Wonderful. Unique. Sounds were wonderful.

Outstanding performance. Thank you so much. So relevant to our time.

Stunning, shocking, enthralling, breathtaking.

Love the vocal!

Incredibly talented cast and crew. Thank you so much.

Resonant and profound.

Absolutely Entrancing!!!

Absolutely incredible!

Incredible talent.

Great show, Great setting, Stunning voices. Thank you

Holy! The talent! I can even! Thank you!

Lovely!

Saturday, October 23, 2021

Tremendous performance last night by all. Congratulations to all the singers and musicians, and the production team. Amazing!

Went was absolutely fabulous 🙌

So impressed by this performance! Breathed fresh air into a beautiful historical piece. Flawless vocal performances. Thank you for this.

Stars!!

Quite wonderful. Thank you. I am moved ...

MAGNIFICENT! Absolutely gorgeous voice. A transcendent experience. Thank you

Our first time seeing a performance like this...we loved it! Thanks for the show, congrats to all involved 😊

Wondrous choirs!

Great staging with the red banner, scarf – very effective. Thanks for a great show!

A spiritual experience! Gorgeous and moving.

It was wonderful! We like the beautiful voice and the tar. The second piece was very powerful. The costumes were interesting and creative.

A very powerful performance by artists that are clearly gifted. It took me to another realm, and I thank you for sharing the energy.

Tonight I heard voices of and from Angels! Thank you for all the peace, joy, and awe your work brings to Halifax. I hope to come again to another performance. My partner said it was his first time seeing so much power in performance, he had tears in the first act, and I had tears in the second! It was SPECTACULAR. I feel like I went on a flight with angels who sing and now there is so much peace and happiness all around! Thank you for inviting us, we so so so enjoyed listening and watching you and the crew.

Rolfe's O Greenest Branch sent shivers up my spine, and the harmonies in the finale blended movement were riveting. Such a great vocal ensemble! Thanks!

BEAUTIFUL PERFORMANCE! I don't usually attend musical events, but after seeing this show, I think I ought to more often! Wow! Congrats to all!

I would like to see some diversity on the stage.

Sunday October 24, 2021

Gorgeous, moving, beautiful work.

What an incredible experience. I am so grateful to have seen ORDO VIRTUTUM. I never could have imagined the talent in my very own community. Thank you.

This was exceptional! Thank you for bringing this to Halifax. The music and voices were heavenly!

The singing transported me to heaven during ORDO VIRTUTUM!! The voices were divine and the acoustics magical!!! Thank you for bringing a little slice of Heaven to Halifax.

Bravo! From the bottom of my heart.

I enjoyed the ORDO VIRTUTUM in latin. Bravo St. Hildegard.

The opera is timeless – speaking to us over the centuries. O Greenest Branch speaks to the travesty of the global response to its refugees – the entire effect had me in tears. The architecture of the church resounded. Bravo!!

Great performance, very talented artists!

Last night's performance was a *tour de force*! I was delighted to see such a large and appreciative audience. I certainly had my doubts about there being one for a 12th century piece. Boy was I wrong!

Lovely singing. Please include Latin texts in the program.

I would have liked to have heard more of the Persian instrument.