

Messiah Audience Feedback

“A compelling and wonderfully engaged performance with a vivid sense of drama. This was one of those performances where you went in with polite, supportive expectation and came out won over, having been carried away. The sense of creating a dramatic narrative that the eight singers brought to the music, reacting to events, was palpable, with the instrumental ensemble as alert as the singers.”

Robert Hugill

“You have collectively raised the bar so high on the Messiah performance that I can never go back to an ordinary concert version. It was outstanding. We loved it. The drama in telling the story, the musicianship and the singing was wonderful. A thoroughly enjoyable evening.”

David Furnival

“Remarkable... I have never heard a performance of Messiah where the specific emotion of each movement was expressed so clearly, let alone one with any sense of underlying feeling – this was more than just a stirring recital of holy texts. Brilliant!”

“I know you had a standing ovation last night, but even that couldn’t capture the extraordinary feeling the show generated. I had to write.”

John Ginman

“Surely this is the only and best way to see the Messiah – total genius staging. Loved it.”

Alice Simon

“I never want to hear Messiah any other way. The singers and players were exceptional. It was moving, and it had wonderful momentum and pulse which enhanced the meaning.”

Stephen Barter

“What a Messiah! I loved the superb and powerful singing and the choreography. I was moved to tears when the soprano sat in front of the Cross and sang ‘I know that my Redeemer Liveth.’”

“The whole Oratorio was a total triumph and I think you could have filled two Chichester cathedral performances.”

“When we left our intimate seats behind the violins, people were just looking at each other and saying ‘wow, that was amazing,’ ‘incredibly moving,’ ‘brilliant!’”

“We congratulate and thank you for a powerful and beautiful evening. It could not have been better.”

“A delightful and uplifting rendition with every detail beautifully thought through – singers who brought the words to life and revealed further dimensions to this well-loved oratorio through their excellently choreographed direction.”

“Wild Arts’s *Messiah* was absolutely glorious with many sine-tingling moments. Beautifully conveyed by the company. A truly wonderful evening.”

“I just had to say how fantastic the Messiah was last night... It was intimate and beautifully sung. 6 stars out of 5! If you did two nights I would go to both.”

“We just got home from your AMAZING performance of the Messiah. What a show - inclusive and uplifting. The musicians perfectly balanced; an unusual staging which was perfect and brilliant.”

“An intimate and wonderful way to start the Christmas season.”

“Just to say that I really enjoyed the performance of Messiah last night. What an amazing production in all aspects. I was very moved by the clarity of the singing and staging.”

“Thank you for that joyful performance of the Messiah last night. It made my heart leap. I do hope you come back many times.”

“Incredible performance by the musicians and singers/actors. Fantastic hospitality!
A wonderful evening well spent.”

“A delightful and uplifting rendition with every detail beautifully thought through – from the soulful poster outside this elegant church or the extensive programme notes, to the warmth of the players, and to the singers who brought the words to life and revealed further dimensions to this well-loved oratorio through their excellently choreographed direction. Wild Arts are a company I will follow with great interest.”

“Wonderfully refreshing. The eight singers had beautiful voices and (something that I highly appreciate) they all had good diction – you could hear every word! The summer production of Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* is something to really look forward to!”

“I felt very privileged to have been at this wonderful performance of Handel’s Messiah. The pared down chorus to eight singers gave each of these extremely talented singers the opportunity to sing the solos. It was quite intimate. This is a new opera company, and as long as we have this talent available and the venues in which they can perform and sponsors, we mustn’t forget them, we can be reassured that opera and the Arts can and will survive in this country!”

“Absolutely brilliant! Didn’t want it to be over! Still thinking about it! What an honour to be able to listen to such talented singers and musicians. Beautiful venue and wonderful staff/volunteers.”

“A superbly sung and played production that didn’t put a foot wrong! I can’t recommend this enough. More performances on their way – Do go see it!”

It was the first time I had been to the lovely Norman Shaw designed St Michael and all the angels church and we all received a warm welcome. This version of the Messiah was exceptional. Firstly, it was without pomp – performed in a gentle way; thoughtful, sensitive... In a way that resonated with the heart. The playing on early instruments was so very beautiful, as was the singing. All so very talented.

The soloists were also the choir which made perfect sense. The performance was also semi-staged for the singers which also made perfect sense – it helped to connect one even more emotionally. The staging included the trumpets being behind the altar screen. So good. Wherever they perform this it will have a delightful intimacy.

Bravo to all.

A revelation to hear Messiah not as a bloated concert hall sound surround form but in a much purer form with twenty musicians and eight singers. To me this was far more engaging.

Thank you all so much for your kind words and support.