



MUSIC REVIEW: February 9th, 2008
Behind The Mask; Arkansas Symphony Orchestra

“Trio of singers takes listeners to Broadway”

By Eric Harrison, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

In a way, the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra is always on Broadway- their home venue, Robinson Center Music hall, is, after all, at the intersection of Broadway and West Markham.

But Friday night they really took their listeners to Broadway with three Broadway singer-actors with fantastic voices performing show tunes, roughly half from Andrew Lloyd Webber shows and half from other hits.

“Bari-tenor” Aaron Lazar brought down the house with his performance of “Music Of The Night” from *Phantom Of The Opera* during the Webber part of the program, with only slightly less audience acclaim for the *Sweeney Todd*-like title tune from Webber’s *Sunset Boulevard*. He had a couple of crowd pleasers in Act I, including “Bring Him Home” from *Les Miserables* and the title song from *Beauty and the Beast*.

Soprano Teri Dale Hansen scored with “Part Of Your World” from *The Little Mermaid* and “Tell me On A Sunday” full of passion and high notes, from Webber’s *Song and Dance*.

Hansen and mezzo Leah Hocking made real magic with a trio of tunes from *Wicked*, and Hocking was a solo delight in “Someone Like You” from *Jekyll and Hyde* (which she had sung on Broadway) and a poignant performance of “Memory” from Webber’s *Cats*.

As a threesome, they did best in “Being Alive” from *Company*, “Love Changes Everything” from Webber’s *Aspects of Love* and the encore, the catchiest tune from *Spamalot*.

Singers, Getzov and the orchestra will repeat the program at 8 p.m. today at Robinson. Ticket information is available at (501) 666-1761 or at the web site, www.arkansassymphony.org.