Roch rocks the house down





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http://www.canoe.ca/JamConcertsR2Z/voisine_roch_001202-sun.html (1 of 3) [10-4-2001 10:58:51]



Concerns or Feedback? <u>E-mail us!</u> The singer sauntered onto the stage casually dressed in a black T-shirt and jeans and just started to sing. From time to time members of his tight seven-piece backup group joined him but mostly it was Roch, his guitar and 1,200 of his closest friends.

"This is nice and cozy," he observed in his best boyish, aw-shucks manner. "Just like a living room."

The face still maintains its pretty-boy looks, but it's become a bit craggier and the voice has deepened and broadened - at times displaying an unexpected depth and range not exhibited on his CDs.

The second half of the concert was composed of chestnuts roasting on an open fire in support of his new album Christmas is Calling.

There is no doubting the album comes from the heart. The singer took four months this summer to put the thing together and he certainly puts the stamp of his style on the songs - singing them with conviction.

Some of the traditional carols are a bit of a surprise as they are run through the relentless Voisine pop-rock blender and come out homogenized - the sort of thing that is generally filed under the title of "easy listening" and which disappears into the white noise of Christmas pop radio .

With a couple of terrific exceptions. He delivered an ever-building version of The Little Drummer Boy and at the end of the concert, the singer was joined by a driving local group, the Northwest Bible College Celebrations Choir, for a couple of quite powerful renditions including a heartfelt version of Oh Holy Night that brought the audience to their feet. The songs, taken from his CD include Joy to the World, Sleigh Ride, What Child is This, Silver Bells and so on.

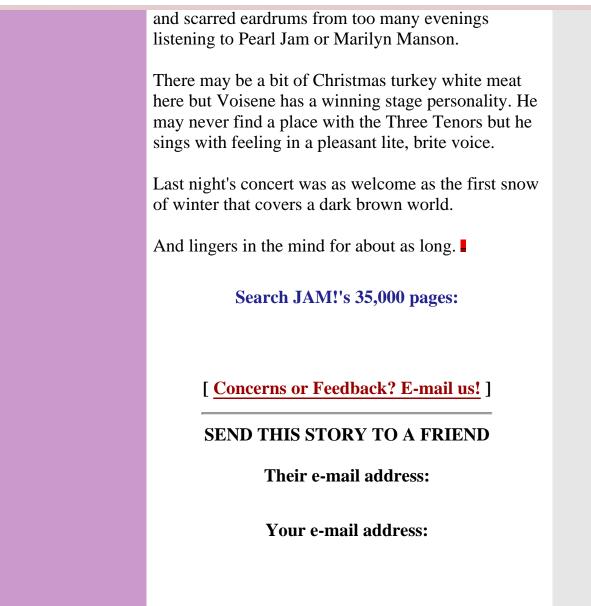
In recent years, it has become fashionable for critics to dump on Voisine for, I dunno, for not being Elton John. I think too many of my burnt-out, battle-hardened brethren suffer from soggy synapses

concentrate on her writing and raising her family. What do you think of this?

Good for her I'll miss her Who cares

The results so far

- Full story
- Past poll results



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