

Orchestra Concert Report Information

Basic requirements: typed, double spaced

Number each item as you answer it

For all but Basic Information, please answer in complete sentences.

For a sample report, see Concert Report Example

Basic Information:

1. Name of group
2. Date and time of concert
3. Location of concert (hall, address, city, etc)
4. Program information/selections
5. Who attended this concert with you?
6. How did you hear about the concert?
7. Give basic background information about the performers (history, etc- from program or brief online research- about 2-3 sentences)

Aesthetics:

1. Setting- describe the location (hall, room, theater) in which the performance took place.
2. Evaluate- was this location a good setting for this performance? Why or why not?
3. Appearance- how was the group dressed? Was their choice of attire effective and appropriate? Why or why not?
4. Presentation- how did the performer(s) present themselves? Was their behavior professional and appropriate? What can you learn about your own professional performance behavior from watching them?

(cont)

Program:

1. In the overall program, was there variety in the selections?
2. What styles of music were presented? (one or more- also include appropriate time period- Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Modern)
3. Was the choice of music appropriate for the performers? If not, why?
4. Many professional performances you will hear have few or no errors in the following categories. If there were issues in any of these areas, please describe:
 - a. Intonation
 - b. Rhythm
 - c. Dynamics
 - d. Tone
 - e. Balance between players or sections

Evaluation:

1. Which selection did you enjoy the most? What appealed to you about this piece?
2. Which selection did you least enjoy? Why?

Processing:

1. As you listened, what impressed you the most?
2. What did you wonder? (What would you like to know)
3. If you could ask one of the performers one question, what would you choose?
4. Would you recommend this (these) performers? If so, who might the performance appeal to most? If not, why not?

EXAMPLE REPORT

Aesthetics:

1. Disney Hall is an example of a round concert hall, designed for optimal acoustics in all seats and areas of the hall. The interior is primarily wood, and some seats are actually behind the orchestra. (Info from program and website, as well as observation).
2. Our seats were at the top of the balcony, but the sound seemed rich and full, so the setting seems effective for this group. They might overfill a smaller hall.
3. The group wore traditional concert black tuxedos and dresses. I noticed that the Phil seems to have relaxed their dress code, as some women's dresses had some sparkle. It appeared completely appropriate. The soloist's bright blue dress was graceful, and the color made her stand out on stage.
4. The orchestra was professional at all times. From watching them, I'm reminded that the audience notices all the small things we do on stage!

Program:

1. The overall program lacked variety, as it was an evening of all Mendelssohn. Fortunately, I enjoy Mendelssohn!
2. The selections were entirely from the Classical period.
3. The choice of music was an appropriate level and style for this group. (As if there's anything not appropriate for the LAPHil....)
4. There were no discernible rhythmic issues; their tone was full and rich. However, the clarinets were sometimes out of tune with the rest of the woodwinds, and at times the dynamics and balance were off- the orchestra somewhat overpowered the soloist. Miss Jansen's tone was somewhat thin, but beautiful.

Evaluation:

1. My favorite selections were the entire violin concerto, and the Scherzo movement of the Scottish Symphony, which has one of my all time favorite melodies.
2. I was not as fond of the Hebrides Overture, as I don't find the melodies as catchy.

Processing:

1. As I listened, what impressed me the most was the overall accuracy of the string section. They appeared to be one instrument- all the motions matched, and every technical passage was flawless.
2. I wondered whether, in rehearsal, they ever have to work on not rushing the difficult passages, the way other groups do? If so, how does Dudamel work on it with them?
3. I would choose to ask Miss Jansen how many different concertos she is scheduled to perform with major orchestras this year, and who chooses them- the orchestra or the soloist?
4. I would highly recommend this performance to others; those to whom it would appeal most are other violinists, or those who enjoy music of Mozart, Haydn and other Classical composers.

One odd thing- the Phil was doing a live video of this concert, and in order to get the trumpets placed correctly on the risers in relation to their microphones and the other players, the back legs of their chairs had been shortened so they could sit on the front edge of a riser. Strange!