

A perfect mix of jazz and opera

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When Chris and Natalie Donnelly perform, it seems that jazz and opera mix perfectly.

These two young musicians captured the hearts of the large audience, Saturday. Natalie Donnelly sang Arias by Verdi, Puccini and Gershwin with a clear tone and excellent diction. She added her own sparkle and dramatic touches to each rendition. Her future as an operatic soprano seems secure as she embarks on her Masters degree at the University of Western Ontario in London.

Chris Donnelly showed his prowess on the piano, not only as a soloist, but also as an accompanist. Pieces by Doug Riley and Victor Young, as well as compositions by Donnelly himself, displayed his virtuosity, agility and musicality. There will be many more Juno nominations ahead for this jazz pianist.

The Donnelly duo made their mark at Colours of Music 2009.