

A Night to Remember

“The Planets” by Gustav Holst was a very spectacular experience. I was amazed that musicians playing classical pieces were able to hold my attention. I was captivated by the sounds each instrument made. I was able to recognize several techniques that the musicians used to make different sounds. This concert has made me realize that classical music is both moving and enjoyable.

This concert was extremely enjoyable. It was entertaining, educational and captivating. At times I felt as though I was transported to a different time and place. The last piece was extraordinary. The choir and the flutes made an awesome combination. I actually lost my breath at the very end of the last piece. I felt as though I was in a trance. It was as though I was being held at the edge of a cliff just waiting to be dropped. The rest of the audience must have felt the same way because no one moved or even applauded.

Each instrument created a different atmosphere. The sound of the violins was my favorite. I enjoyed the way the composer created these pieces and showcased each instrument. The musicians played with passion and intensity. It was like watching an artist painting a picture. I am amazed that the composer was able to use each instrument in such a thoughtful way. Each piece flowed smoothly and went well with the video presentation. It was as though Holst had envisioned the appearance of each planet and was able to create musical pieces that fit each planet's mood and temperament. He was able to give each planet a personality all its own. I especially enjoyed the way the composer used the harps with other instruments to create a mystical and fascinating aura.

I noticed many techniques that were used during the concert. The violinist used their fingers to pluck the strings. This is called pizzicato. At one time they also used a technique called

spiccato were they bounced the bow on the strings. These different techniques created unique sounds. The composer also used crescendos and decrescendos to emphasize certain areas of his work. The crescendos created a sense of urgency and excitement. The decrescendos made me feel more relaxed and calm. Several of his pieces ended abruptly which left me with a desire for more.

This experience was one I will never forget. It was intriguing and educational. It was motivating and much more than I could ever have imagined. My ideas of music have been stretched and broadened further than I have realized was possible. I never thought I would enjoy listening to classical music. This performance touched both my mind and my soul leaving me hungry for more experiences just like it. I am in awe by the amount of talent, dedication, and hard work that it must take to be able to perform pieces of this magnitude and level of difficulty.