



GROUP PHOTO: The Doha Youth Choir.

A night of festive music

The air of Christmas festivity was ushered in through a night of music and cheer over the weekend in Al Waab. Doha Singers, Doha Community Orchestra and Wind Symphony and Doha Youth and Junior Choirs led a combined Christmas concert for the second year running.

This year the event proved to be even more entertaining than last, with a hall filled with music-enthusiasts encouraging the singers and even joining in the cheerful atmosphere. The concert hall with a seating capacity of 615 was sold out before the show.

The Doha Youth Choir proved their calibre again and this year a new talented bunch of

young singers from the Doha Junior Choir also made their stage debut at the concert, singing for the very first time and to a large audience led by Doha Baroque Ensemble co-founder, Bach Choir founder and eminent cellist Katrin Meingast.

The Doha Youth Choir opened with a traditional carol called *Adeste Fideles* that featured Noemi Marzinger and Ella Pyne singing an angelic descant at the end.

The choir tackled a tricky acappella number by the world famous group Pentatonix called *White Winter Hymnal* which involved an intricate clapping sequence.

The Doha Youth Choir is two years old and is led by Alena Pyne. At the concert, they

demonstrated their growing vocal skill in their rendition of the heart-wrenching carol by Harald Drake «In the bleak mid-winter», rising to a powerful and most beautiful climax in that last verse about how one can offer one's heart as a gift to others when there is nothing else to part with.

The Doha Youth Choir was then joined on stage by the addition to the community choral scene here in Doha, the Doha Junior Choir. These excited girls came out in their new skirts, looking special. Under the direction of Katrin Meingast they sang a melodious carol called *Hodie Christus Natus Est*, which then moved into two parts at the end and received a thundering applause for their perfect pitching.

These two choirs finished then, all lights dimmed, holding electrical candles in their hands to *Silent Night*, first sung in German by the older Youth Choir and then finished all together, quietly, calmly and with one breath extinguished their lights, the theatre falling into complete darkness.

The Doha Youth Choir will be travelling to Hamburg and Berlin in the coming year with their musical feat and are looking for support and sponsorship for this journey in music. The Doha Youth Choir is also looking out for dedicated singers aged 14-18 who can commit to three rehearsals weekly. For more information, please e-mail info@dohayouthchoir.com



ON: The Doha Youth Choir in performance at the event.