

Former EU parliament president Pat Cox, narrating the Duke Ellington 'Sacred Concert' Show at St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork, as part of the Guinness Jazz Festival.

Picture: Larry Cummins



Vocalist Sylvia
Howard of the
Laurent Mignard
Orchestra,
supported by the
Vocal Spirit Choir
and Voices of
Cork Choir at St
Fin Barre's.
Picture: Larry

Pat makes a holy show of himself

FORMER president of the EU Parliament Pat Cox got all jazzed up for a once-in-a-ifetime performance yesterday. He narrated and also had a singing role in one of the most famous jazz works of the modern era, the late Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert, staged at St Fin Barre's Cathedral as the Church of Ireland's cultural contribution to Cork's European Capital of Culture programme. The two-hour long event, whose sponsors included the Evening Echo and the Irish

included the Evening Echo and the Irish Examiner, featured sax, clarinet, trumpets, trombones, piano, double bass and drums. The 30-strong Voices of Cork choir, directed by Padraig Wallace also made an outstanding contribution to the success of the show, directed by one of France's best-known band leaders, composer, arranger and trumpet player, Laurent Mignard and featuring his band, the Dukish Orchestra, named in honour of Duke Ellington.

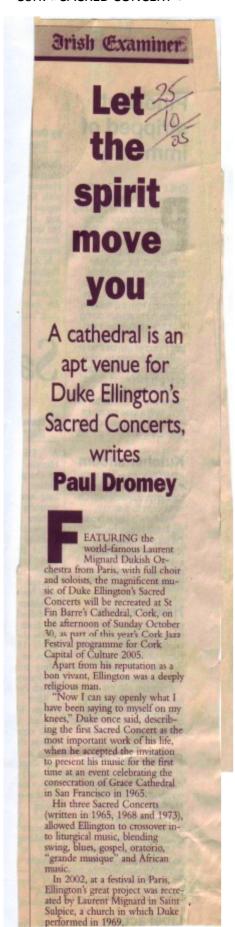
By VINCENT KELLY

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Sylvia Howard. Her artistry won the biggest ovation of the afternoon. One minute it was the sound of a full swing band which filled the sacred venue, the next it was that of instrumental soloists, solo piano, the choir or solo vocalist. Mr Mignard paid special tribute to Bernard Casey, formerly head of the wind and percussion department at Cork School of Music and the rest of the Cork Jazz Festival Committee for their special contribution to organising the event. Cllr Jerry Buttimer, deputising for the Lord Mayor, praised former Harbour Commissioner member Bill Hosford for coming up with the idea and the rest of the Church of Ireland community for backing him on a project which, he said, was undoubtedly one of the highlights of 2005.

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Cork « SACRED CONCERT »



As the concert was taking place Bill Johnson, the director of Cork Guinness Jazz festival, speaking at Cork Opera House, disclosed that Duke Ellington's famous 'sacred concerts' are to be performed at the cathedral on Sunday, Oc-The three works combining elements of jazz, classical and choral music, spirituals, gospel, blues and dance, will be performed by the Laurent Mignard Dukish orchestra, one of Europe's top big band orchestras. "We are looking forward to what should be a truly magnificent occasion," Bill said. Aoife Carlin, Cork 2005; Mary Browne, secretary Jazz committee; Imelda Dervin, Cork 2005 and Vincent Kelly, Business Editor Evening Echo at the launch of the Duke Ellington recital.

