

## SHOWCASE OF HARMONIOUS VOICES AND MELODIOUS MUSIC



**Junie Yong performing alongside the UCSI orchestra, led by Isaac Chia and the choir.**

It was a cold and wet night, but that did not deter the 151-member choir and 35-member strong orchestra from UCSI to put up an exciting and exuberant performance to a packed recital hall.

The concert opened with A. Vivaldi's most famous choral piece, "Gloria". Soloists Bui Yik Ling, Racheal Tan, Ng Kun Kuen and Junie Yong sang their parts beautifully and their voices soared with the accompanying orchestra led by Isaac Chia. All seven movements were played to the hilt with the intended dramatic fire and contrast from movement to movement. Choirmaster Ian Lim was very bold to have assembled this group together and perform Vivaldi's most famous choral piece.

After the intermission, the orchestra took centre stage with the Egmont Overture, Op. 84 by Ludwig von Beethoven. This powerful and expressive overture was moving and inspirational, with the string section leading the pace while the woodwind sections provided the melodramatic moods.

The second item was three movements from the Peer Gynt Suite #1, Op. 46 from Edvard Grieg. It was not just the audience that enjoyed the *comedy* piece, but the orchestra and the conductor himself had smiles on their faces when they were playing the fourth movement entitled "In the Hall of the Mountain-King".

The final item was the Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16 (1<sup>st</sup> Movement) by E. Grieg. The piano concerto was played by UCSI's own pianist, Lee Chung Sing. Ms. Lee is a first year student at UCSI and the execution of her piece was technically precise and filled with the right emotion. The brilliantly played piece from both the pianist and the accompanying orchestra brought to a close a showcase of wonderful talents from UCSI's School of Music.

The students received resounding applause at the end of this concert. The smiles and joy seen on the faces of the audience, students and lecturers attest to another outstanding show that explored and stretched the skills and capabilities of those who performed and helped organise the event.

Bravo! Jolly good show!