

“Spirit of the Streets Choir”

In Concert.

Perth Concert Hall, Tuesday 14th of October, 2008

How does one sum up the final chapter in this epic journey which has been some twelve months in the making?

The word, **“Magic”** is hardly sufficient to encompass the scope of what was achieved.

A final week end of rehearsals, followed weeks of TV appearances, radio interviews, print media interviews and public presentations each one appearing to flow seamlessly into the next.

Will the tickets sell?

Are people buying out of charity or will they turn up on the night?

Daily checks with the ticket office then almost hourly checks.

As the sales increased.

Do we need to open the upper gallery at the concert hall?

Will the programs be printed in time?

Have the special parking places been allocated.

How do we cater for the choirs between dress rehearsal and performance on the day.

These and a million other questions arose continually to keep one on ones toes and guessing.

In the final analysis we had no need to worry. The upper gallery was opened and everyone came.

About 2000 to be precise.

Everything ran without a glitch thanks to a wonderful production team under the talented producer, **Rachel Moorhead**, her voluntary assistant, **Nunzio Giunta**, together with some marvelous volunteers from the **Actuarial Faculty at Curtin University**.

Jim Petrie and **Bill Toon** from “**The Big Issue**” pulling rabbits out of hats and **Sonia Vinci** hosting the evening in front of a capacity audience and not forgetting **Sue Scrutton** our fantastic publicist who squeezed out every last drop of media attention.

What a reception !

What an audience !

They clapped they cheered, they whistled they shouted for more.

The three choirs gave it there all !

Almost three hours on stage passed like three minutes and then it was all over.

Just our feeling of elation at having given the performance of a life time, a truck full of memories that we will treasure for ever and a general euphoria which will leave us walking on clouds for some time to come.

The feedback has been just wonderful.

“I laughed, I cried, I shouted and cheered”. “I want to join a choir and I can’t even sing.” A wonderful performance.” “The best night I have ever had.”

Our intention was to bring attention to the sort of disadvantage which the ‘**Spirit of the Streets Choir**’ represent. This we did collectively and in close harmony.

Theirs is the true triumph of the evening.

They gave it their everything. Under the guidance of Bernard Carney their musical director they performed like true professionals and they created a bond with the audience which was;

“true magic”.

No other words will do.

They have 2000 converts in the audience who will now see these people and their plight in a totally new light and they were acknowledged for what they are.

The true battlers in our society with the biggest most generous hearts.

In material terms they have nothing but in the depth of their human spirit and in what they gave us all, the choristers from the other choirs and their audience, they are rich and enriching beyond measure.

God Bless every one of them it has been a privilege to work with and perform alongside them.

Ken Steele
Project Manager
21st October, 2008