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Review of the show **Cyberjam**

Producer/Director Jim Mason has brought together young musicians of unusual talent. They are clearly not only exceptional musicians, but they are also fit enough to dance and gyrate while still making very good music. The concept of the show is that there is no substitute for the sheer energy of live music energetically performed to a high standard - for which the title suggesting high tech electronic sounds may confuse. However, it only took a few bars of the opening set to establish the scene for the evening - this was live music and how !

I have little doubt that pupils seeing Cyberjam would be enthused with the theatrical and sports-like possibilities of this innovative style of performance. Whilst there were some outstanding individual performances - Joey Oakley on drums, Matt Corey on Sax, Adam Rapa on horn and Ellissa Johnson an outstanding dancer - my favoured soloist was percussionist Christopher 'kit' Chatham.

If I were to select favourite sets it would be *Bohemian Rhapsody* - good humoured and staged well enough to even please the late Mr Mercury; 'Channel One Suite' which closed the first half - a particularly impressive arrangement; and the finale *Swing Swing*.

This show comes from the production team of Blast! with its very clear connections to the pageantry of the 'marching band' genre. Cyberjam moves a little further away so will probably have even wider appeal.

Jim Vaughan