

» MESSIAH

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as articulated within an 18th Century oratorio.

Sunday's performance proved noteworthy because Thomas Young—for whom the tenor role in the original "Jazz-Gospel Messiah" was conceived—starred (on Saturday, Rodrick Dixon took the part).

Young's was an uncommonly effective interpretation, the singer equally striking in the intricate baroque figurations of "Comfort Ye" and the fast-flying bebop lines of the reimagined "The People That Walked in Darkness." Soprano Alfreda Burke also produced her most luxuriant vocals in "The Trumpet Shall Sound."

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