



Open Stage 2019

By Karsten Schulz

Held on 10 April, this year's Open Stage once again demonstrated that the students of the German School Kuala Lumpur (DSKL) are involved not just in sports but are also highly talented and active in the performing and visual arts.

The Sinfonietta graced the audience with three musical presentations, followed by a welcoming speech by the Head of School, Dr Ulrich Mayer. Through song and dance, Year 1 students then vividly reminded the audience of environmental pollution and its consequences for animals, plants and humans. This was followed by the stage production "The Jealous Camel", presented by Year 3 students, depicting friendship, courtesy and compassion towards one another.

All 24 students from Year 2 breathtakingly performed "Pirates of the Caribbean" on their boomwhackers. Luna Zander of Year 9, together with our teacher Johanna Rausch, delicately rendered the song "Always Remember Us This Way" from the current movie "A Star Is Born".

DSKL's recorder players from Years 1 and 2 gave a convincing rendition of "Hard Metal", which caught the guests' attention. Meanwhile, seniors wooed the crowd with their piece "Non Parler Français", demonstrating their skills and success achieved through continuously practicing and playing music together.

The Kids Band's performance also improved from gig to gig: their new song "Bitch", whose title should not be interpreted too seriously, was in many ways convincing, particularly through the guitar solo of Noah Clemont from Year 6.

Jakob Jonas of Year 7 very impressively interpreted his two French dances "Bourrée 1 + 2" from the Suite for Violoncello BWV 1009 by Johann Sebastian Bach. For the



The Sinfonietta opening the fantastic music and dance event. Photo credit: Gerhard Burchhart.

first time ever, Jakob shone as a soloist alongside his orchestral performance in the Sinfonietta.

The two pieces rendered by the professional recorder players and guest musicians, Simon Thomé (Year 9) and Ainoa Lio (Year 7), underscored once more the great musical development of the DSKL recorder players led by Nicole Thomé over the past few years.

"Bohemian Rhapsody" was sung by the high school choir under the direction of Jeremy Yeo before the intermission. The singers were convincing with very high-pitched and polyphonic passages throughout the entire song!

Kayla Steeghs and Marleen Heitkamp, our presenters from Year 10, swiftly took us through the rest of the program after the intermission. Years 3 and 4 students expounded with a wink why "Küssen verboten" (Kissing is Forbidden) by the German band die Prinzen and Ainoa Lio displayed her great skills in song composition and the performance of her own piece "Love At First Sight", accompanying her vocals on the guitar. Year 6 and many other students who speak or learn French and Spanish thrilled the audience with their songs "Je ne parle pas Français" and "Lo mismo", followed by Tobias Eulitz from Year 12, guitarist of our DSKL school band who performed his own piece for the first time. His song "What is Love" was beautifully and very emotionally recited by Dominique Cohen-Karfich of Year 11.

Year 3 students displayed their remarkable talents in their highly



The impressive performance of a French and Spanish singing mix. Photo credit: Gerhard Burchhart.

professional yet funny dance "Speedy Gonzalez". One of the special highlights of this evening was the presentation of our Fashion AG. Homemade fashion of this working group under the leadership of Dorothee Englert was presented to an enthusiastic audience. The wonderful presentation was impressively staged by a colourful background projection and music of Rihanna. This was followed by three new pieces played in style by the school band Teachers Nightmare. Apart from "Hotel California" and "Jammin", the song "Castle of Glass" by Linkin Park with the video clip was particularly intriguing, as it brilliantly depicted the futility of wars and the desperation of the bereaved. The splendid finale of Open Stage 2019 was then rendered by all students of DSKL presenting the song "From Now On" from the movie "The Greatest Showman".

The overwhelming and largely positive feedback once again shows that Open Stage of DSKL is a truly successful cultural event, unique in its diversity and quality. Every year this event is announced on the website (www.dskl.edu.my) and on Facebook; tickets are available at the box office. 