

KATE MILLER-HEIDKE AND KEIR NUTTALL A POTENT MIX

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Peter Burdon, *The Advertiser*

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Close to 190 million people saw Kate Miller-Heidke perform at Eurovision last week ... but an audience one millionth the size was very nearly as enthusiastic for her fabulous performance in the *Women of Song* series at UKARIA curated by Iain Grandage.

Miller-Heidke's voice is miraculous, an exquisite coloratura, supremely flexible but with heft when needed, that has morphed over time into an instrument of tremendous vitality.

Add to that her songwriting skill, much of it in partnership with her companion in life and work Keir Nuttall, and you have a seriously potent mix.

The concert sped through her considerable output from *Words* (2007) and *Caught In The Crowd* to *Sarah, Jimmy* and *O Vertigo!* and on to recent numbers like *You've Underestimated Me, Dude* to a song written in the last few days.



Brilliant arrangements of each and every one, and what's really interesting is the degree to which Miller-Heidke has developed her natural gifts – and they are phenomenal – over the years.

Miller-Heidke and Nuttall were joined by Grandage himself and soprano Jessica Hitchcock – who ought to be the subject of a *Women of Song* recital herself, organisers please note.

The encore, almost compulsorily, was of course the Eurovision track, *Zero Gravity* – cue hysterical reaction – in a cut down, lyrical version, but they left the last word to another songwriter, though Miller-Heidke has had tabs on *I Wanna Dance With Somebody* for a long time now.

Kate Miller-Heidke & Keir Nuttall with Iain Grandage
UKARIA Cultural Centre
May 24 & 25