

The Fartein Valen hall of Stavanger Concert Hall is arousing great enthusiasm in the Dagbladet. The acoustician Eckard Kahle, who himself was a professional viola player, was impressed.

# Fartein Valen praise

**Fartein Valen orchestra hall in Stavanger Concert Hall receives ecstatic praise in Dagbladet.**

STEIN ROGER FOSSMO

Published 23.10.2012 – 09:46 Updated 24.10.2012 – 20:45

Ståle Wikshåland is very happy after the staging of Verdi's "Requiem".

"Occasionally there was a choral sound that I have never experienced in any Norwegian concert hall," writes the professor in musicology. He has been the Dagbladet's classical music reviewer since 1980.

The critic gives the Latvian National Choir a large part of the credit, but the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra's own choir also performed well, believes Wikshåland.

"But they did not drown out the orchestra for a moment. With these acoustics there is room for several things simultaneously. The instrumental sections stood out distinctly, all the way through," he writes.

## **Stiff test**

The music reviewer believes the opening of Verdi's mass for the dead provides a stiff test for the venue.

"Extremely weak strings are supplemented by the choir in the pianissimo register (...). "The moment was completely filled, yet barely audible," exults the veteran critic, who believes the acoustics are just as good as in the Great Hall at the Norwegian Opera & Ballet.

## **Best**

Wikshåland believes the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra is the most interesting and best outside Oslo.