

JOOLS WAS A GEM!

REVIEW

Ruth Warrander
saw Jools Holland and his Rhythm
& Blues Orchestra at the AECC

IT'S party time for everyone when Jools Holland comes to town.

Hundreds flocked to watch the quick-fingered star take to the AECC's Press and Journal Arena with his fantastic Rhythm & Blues Orchestra.

As soon as Jools sat down at his grand piano, the magic started, introducing his band one by one and launching into raw, stripped-back blues numbers, with the audience encouraged to sing along.

Bringing a different rhythm to the set was Jamaican ska and reggae trombone player 'El Reco' Rico Rodriguez. His rendition of I'm In The Mood For Love, with its off-beat guitar rhythm, got the audience in the mood to dance.

Jools prepared his guests for



SUPERSTAR: Jools Holland brought the house down. PICTURE BY ANDY THORN

"probably the best drum-solo you will ever hear in your life" – and boy, was he right. The talented Gilson Lavis was left alone on stage to drum the house down. His energetic performance got faster and faster, as it got more intricate – a definite highlight of the night.

Jools then welcomed "a

legend" to the stage – the wonderful Sandie Shaw. The long-legged beauty sparkled on stage in her gold outfit and her husky yet strong voice served well in delivering a unique version of The Beatles' Love Me Do. Her velvety tones, sang with such heartfelt emotion, gave her famous Puppet on a String a deeper meaning.

What did you think of the show?



I loved the show. The drum solo was a highlight – he was amazing.
Elaine Matheson, 52, receptionist, Bridge of Don



Jools was very good, he's such a professional.
Alan Kirby, 60 project manager, Oldmeldrum



I've only ever seen Jools on TV, so it was good seeing him on stage.
John Davidson, 39, design manager, Mugiemoss



I had a fantastic time – the boogie woogie sound was great.
Kayleigh Cousillas-Varela, 23, nurse, Inverurie

"Treated to three encores"

Trumpets sounded to welcome Queen of Boogie Woogie Ruby Turner to sing her lively set.

And after more incredible solos the two-hour show came to a halt. But the audience boogied their way home happy – after all, they'd been treated to three encores.

rwarrander@ajl.co.uk