

Who's got the X Factor in the West End?

Posted at 3:38 PM on Monday, November 02, 2009

The ex X factor gang aren't the only ones diversifying. Former theatre producer HAROLD SANDITEN has taken a cabaret course, re-invented himself as a lounge singer and his lovely PR people were very keen that I should tell you about his recent gig with Pizza on the Park. Don't be fooled by the name; this is a prestigious venue where many top international acts have performed and if you want an antidote to the overly slick, confident persona of life's natural stars Sanditen could be your man. I should warn you however that he doesn't pitch or hold notes in any conventional sense but he certainly brings an extraordinary vulnerability to the songs. In fact at several points I had to fight the urge to rush up, put an arm around him and reassure him everything would be OK. And he brings a shy camp twinkle to the classic song lyrics, rather like watching your mousy uncle tittering to himself at a racy joke. Eventually it's rather sweet.