Christopher Hogwood, director of the Handel and Haydn Society orchestra and choirs, is to be commended for bringing together two genres of music—Baroque and jazz—in last weekend’s performance of Bach Variations. What could have been a confusing event for the audience resulted in an evening of music fulfilling to both classical and jazz fans. The H&H performed with emotion and grace reminiscent of a true Baroque orchestra. However, it was Hogwood’s unusual innovation—the Modern Jazz Quartet—that stole the show.

Linda Quan. MJQ’s performance continued the theme of contemporary jazz that Hogwood has shared with the orchestra through his classical ensemble, the Bach Variations. The MJQ’s performance was a true Baroque orchestra. However, it was Hogwood’s unusual innovation—the Modern Jazz Quartet—that stole the show.

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