

Here's an excerpt from today's review of Nancy's concert with the Springfield Symphony orchestra.

"Swing, Swing, Swing!" was almost an understatement at Saturday's hard-driving pops concert by the Springfield Symphony at Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts.

"Kelly's tightly focused, vibrato-free voice boasts the youthful sheen and rhythmic flexibility of Anita O'Day and Ella Fitzgerald in their prime. After playful, mid-tempo takes on "I'm Beginning to See the Light" and "It Had to Be You," she offered the first of several wide-ranging scat passages in the Fats Waller standard "Honeysuckle Rose." Her exacting control of pitch and dynamics enlivened "Unforgettable," while "Time After Time" swung gently and ended with a hurdling swoop to a nicely sustained final note.

Two songs provided a vivid study in contrasts: Rodgers and Hart's melancholy "He Was Too Good to Me" found Kelly in understated, lyrical mode; "Ain't Nobody's Business If I Do" allowed her to pull all the stops for a blues-inflected, scat-filled romp through the song associated with Billie Holiday." -- **Larry Collins, Springfield News Leader, October 21, 2008**