

## Together at Home review - locked down stars lift the spirits

With Together at Home, music stars from around the world were brought together to give everyone something they so desperately need at this time of acute crisis: a chance to judge the interior design choices of the rich and famous.

As you watch this compilation of live performances recorded in stars' homes while they, like everyone else, self-isolate due to coronavirus, it's a bit like going round a house with an estate agent: you're pretending to listen to what they're saying, but you're actually trying to check out their bookshelves and thinking, my God, those kitchen units are *divine*/awful.

divine 神圣的; 极好的

All this ogling is not really in the spirit of the event, which is a deeply earnest appreciation from the stars for essential workers, their performances interspersed with coverage of the fight against the virus.

Among the new generation that's invited, Billie Eilish is typically *spellbinding*. She picks out Sunny by Bobby Hebb, an infectiously joyful tune, but while the lyrics face forward into brightness and joy, the way Eilish performs it — using her *sensual*, high-frequency *vibrato* — acknowledges the pain that came before.

spellbinding 引人入胜的

sensual 性感的; 肉体的

vibrato 颤音

cynical 冷嘲的

Although it's celebrating the work of the WHO, there are some *cynical* comments.

One reading is that these performances are merely good PR, which of course they are; a more pointed criticism might be that for all the talk of it bringing people together, music is actually quite *impotent* in the face of such a *devastating* disease. The situation is so grave for some that art will seem facile, even *indulgent*.

impotent 无力的; 虚弱的

devastating 毁灭性的

indulgent 放纵的; 任性的