

CAMERATA TINTA BAROCCA's

MATZIKAMMA MUSIC WEEK 2017



CTB'S MATZIKAMMA MUSIC WEEK 2017

This serves as a report back from Camerata Tinta Barocca Music Charitable Trust about the programme we presented during the week from 8th to 12th May 2017.

Our music presentations were based in Matzikama Municipality. The main towns in this locality are Vredendal, Vanrhynsdorp, Klaver and Lutzville, and our program was efficiently coordinated by Michele de Villiers, music teacher at Hoërskool Vredendal.

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, Colin Davies, Olwen Gibson, and Gillian Foster, we have travelled to this area with a music program annually since 2013. Without this support CTB would not have been able to mount such a full and varied program each year.

This was our second tour (the first being in 2016) with this particular combination of players:

Erik Dippenaar: Virginal and Harpsichord

Caroline Walters: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass Recorder

Lente Louw: Soprano Voice

Uwe Grosser: Theorbe, Lute, Baroque Guitar

Cheryl de Havilland: Baroque cello

Music presentations were made to 10 different schools and to approximately 750 learners:

Monday 8th May: Hoërskool Vredendal,
Laerskool Vredendal,
Tuesday 9th May: Vergenoeg Primer
Nouveau Kollege
Wednesday 10th May: Vredendal-Noord Primer
Vredendal Senior School
Thursday 11th May: Vanrhynsdorp Hoërskool
Maskam Primary School
Friday 12th May: Laerskool Klawer
Steilhoogte Primary school



CTB was delighted to present 5 recorders and 5 music stands to the young learners of Steilhoogte Primary School. The school has only recently started teaching music and they have acquired some infrastructure. We were able to add to this with our contribution.



We generally gave three workshops in the course of each morning and our presentations were tailored to suit the level and interest of the students.



Within the various groups there was a big range of musical knowledge. There were also some members of staff who were keen to learn more.

Some learners did not have any musical knowledge, but everyone had an opportunity to try out our instruments at the end of the workshops.

Learners from some schools had a good musical grounding and were already playing at a high standard.



Our afternoons were mostly spent working with individual students or with groups of students. There were large singing groups and recorder ensembles, as well as solo players. Most of the learners brought along prepared pieces, and some were grade 12 music students working towards their final exams later in the year.

The feedback we received from one music teacher was that the learner's interaction with us last year had had an ongoing positive impact on them long after we had left. We also noticed a marked improvement in the various students' level of playing as the week progressed.

Concerts

In the course of the week we gave two concerts. The first was presented at the beautiful Missionary Church at Letsatsi Lodge, Vanrhynsdorp. A pre-concert talk at the venue was given by Erik Dippenaar.



The second concert was given at the NG Moedergemeente in Vredendal on the Thursday eve. This concert was a mix of various items and was largely performed by the students we had been working with during the week. In addition tenor Albert Engelbrecht, a former student at Hoërskool Vredendal and lecturer at UFS, sang.

This year CTB was very pleased to welcome Senior Curriculum Advisor for the Western Cape, Mr. Keith Tabisher who attended our Thursday night concert. We greatly appreciate his strong support, and interest in the outreach work CTB is doing.



In conclusion:

CTB's aim and intention is to ensure the sustainability of this outreach programme in order to continue to help developing young musical talent in these rural schools.

Once again, the level of enthusiasm towards our presentations was extremely encouraging from all the schools. We feel we had a very successful tour, with a positive response from everyone involved.



Sincere thanks once again to our donors Colin Davies, Olwen Gibson and Gillian Foster for their generous funding, and for making a difference to so many young people's lives.

Cheryl de Havilland

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