



CAMERATA TINTA BAROCCA



This serves as a report from Camerata Tinta Barocca Music Charitable Trust on the ‘Sunshine Concerts’ programme presented in 2018.

2018 PROGRAMME

Our first concert in this year’s Sunshine concert series was played at **VERA School for Autistic learners** on Friday 30th November. VERA schedules school assemblies for every Friday morning throughout their term, and this was their penultimate assembly of the year; it was the perfect time for us to visit them. The age span of their learners was from quite young i.e. junior school level, through to 18 years old. There were a few learners attending who remembered us from our last concert in 2015 when Quentin Crida and François Arzul played.

VERA has a lovely tradition where they close Assembly by singing the National Anthem and they celebrate the birthdays of any of their learners. We were therefore able to play along with impromptu renderings of Nkosi Sikelel’ and Happy Birthday for them. I have some video clips of both.

One of the pieces on our program was Tchaikovsky's "Waltz of the Flowers". While we played, many of the learners got up to dance along to our music and the Hall was filled with many people dancing while we played. This concert was a wonderful start to our series. Both the learners and staff were clearly uplifted by our music and we, the musicians, thoroughly enjoyed the contribution we had so obviously made to make their day happy, and to the end of their term.

Our second concert was at **Rosedon House**. This is a residential facility for adults with Cerebral Palsy. This group of adults are very uninhibited and full of character and they responded with great enthusiasm to our music. There was one man in the home who decided to come and "conduct" us, and this was to the enjoyment of all residents and colleagues at the home (as well as us!). Generally, the items we played where the residents could sing along were particularly well received and proved to be the most popular. Feedback from some of the staff there who I chatted to afterwards was that our music is something the residents very much look forward to.



On Friday December 7th: we visited the **C.T. Society for the Blind**, in Salt River. This is a **centre for the blind and visually impaired** persons. We were invited to play at their end of year party which was scheduled to take place before many went off to their homes for Christmas. Many people greeted us after our concert with warm appreciation of our music.

Sunday 9th December: **Woodside Special Care Centre**. We have played at this centre several times in the past and always found it to be both a challenging and a rewarding experience. This year, for the first time, we were asked to play at their Carol Service which took place on Sunday 9th December. The service was for those who reside at the home, as well as for their families and the staff members. The residents of this home are profoundly intellectually and physically disabled; when we play they generally get very excited about our music, and they sometimes react with great vocal enthusiasm. This occasion was no exception. As it was a carol service we had the opportunity to make music with others in the Woodside community.

On December 10th we played at the **Douglas Murray Home** which provides care for the frail and



aged in association with organisations and individuals in the community of Retreat. CTB has played concerts annually at this home since we started the program in 2009, and we now see the residents as our friends and can greet some of them by name. It is always a pleasure to play at this home as our music is so appreciated and enjoyed. Some of the residents who are no longer mentally alert are visibly calmed by our music, while others love the opportunity to sing along to the Carols we play and to hear songs that they know.

On 12th December we went to Woodstock to play for **NOAH** (Neighbourhood Old Age Homes) in Woodstock. This organisation provides communal homes for fit, independent, social pensioners in the greater Cape Town area. We had quite a small attendance at this concert (about 30) but they were extremely appreciative, and we felt we touched their hearts with our music. We received several musical requests, all of which we were able to accommodate. As they said afterwards, Christmas has become so commercialised and artificial in so many ways, but we had brought the real meaning of Christmas to these lovely older members of our community.

Dear Cheryl and the Tinta Barocca String Quartet

On behalf of NOAH (Neighbourhood Old Age Homes) Management and staff please accept our grateful appreciation and heartfelt thanks for the beautiful classical music and Christmas carols you so very professionally brought to our social pensioners. Ageing can be lonely and as well difficult to stay active and socially involved, your concert was a great opportunity for this negativity to be reversed, we thank you.

We are blessed to have a warm caring community looking out for us, thank you for helping us to reach out to the needier elderly, may many more Blessings abound you.

Bonny Diener – NOAH



Adams Farm Home in Plumstead was our last concert for 2018. This home is a long-term residential care facility for women with intellectual disabilities. We have visited this



home for three years in succession and found them to be a very excitable group of ladies who openly show their pleasure (or displeasure on some occasions!) with whatever comes at them. From their response there is no doubt that they love music, particularly when they can sing or dance along to it and they did

both at our concert!

Dear Cheryl,

On behalf of all at Adams Farm Home, I shall be most grateful if you will kindly convey our most grateful thanks to the Tinta Barocca String Quartet for coming to Adams Farm Home yesterday and giving a super performance for the ladies' pleasure. I understand that they thoroughly enjoyed the concert and listening to such glorious music certainly soothes the souls of the residents and staff.

Thank you for taking the time to visit us again, we truly appreciate your efforts to bring the playing of music to those who would not normally be exposed to such a professional level of performance.

Pat Baudains - ADAMS FARM



In Conclusion

Camerata Tinta Barocca is proud to have been playing the Sunshine concerts annually since 2009. Once again, we had an extremely successful set of concerts and we feel we have made a positive impact on all the people we played our music to. We are very grateful to the G. and R. Raimondo Charitable Trust for their generous ongoing donation, and for the opportunity it gives us to serve and reach many challenged and struggling people around Cape Town.

Cheryl de Havilland
Camerata Tinta Barocca Outreach Coordinator
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