



Cape Town Baroque Orchestra 2022 ARTISTIC REPORT

2022 has been a busy and exciting year for the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra (CTB), with constant and steady expansion, reaching out towards new audiences, striving towards continuously raising our level of artistic output, and cultivating young baroque players through our various educational aspects. In keeping with our goal to create work of artistic integrity following the Historically Informed Performance (HIP) approach, all our concerts during the course of 2022 was performed on period-appropriate instruments, with CTB playing an increasingly important role in training a growing number of local musicians in HIP practice on period instruments.

Due to the relaxing of Covid-19 restrictions the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra's 2022 artistic programme could return to concerts, education projects and an outreach aspect in an in-person format. In spite of this, our year started off with a recording project, which was broadcast on kykNET, on the Toyota US Woordfees 2022 DSTV pop-up channel, and was re-packaged for use by several radio stations (both regional and national). Our online content has enabled us to reach a wider audience (locally and internationally) and created an awareness of the South African musicians working in Historically Informed Performance. It has also resulted in proposals for several international collaborations.

Due to travel restrictions being lifted, we could resume our programme of collaborations with international artists. In this vein we have worked with the following international artists during the course of 2022: countertenor Clint van der Linde (SA/Belgium), singer Marelize Gerber (SA/Austria), baroque woodwind player Matthias Maute (Canada) and violinist Tim Kliphuis (The Netherlands). The collaborations with Van der Linde and Gerber follows our aim of offering ex-South African musicians working abroad in early music performance (HIP) a platform to share their experience and skills with local musicians and audiences.

2022 ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

1) January 2022 recording project

kykNET broadcast

Our 2022 season kicked off in February with a sound and video recording project, titled *Barokopera Galakonsert*, that we made for kykNET. The CTBO was joined by soloists Lynelle Kenned (soprano), Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi (soprano), Brittany Smith (soprano), Jason Atherton (tenor) and William Berger (baritone), as well as the newly established Lutesong Consort of ten singers. This programme was broadcast on Sunday, 5 June on kykNET: 10:30 on kykNET (channel 144 on DSTV) and on the same day at 12:00 on kykNET NOU (channel 146 on DSTV).

This material is (as per contractual agreement with kykNET) free for our own use:

- as separate movement video clips on our YouTube channel
- as separate movement video clips on our InstagramTV platform
- as audio track for use on radio

We have re-packaged the material and it was broadcast as part of the 2022 Woordfees DSTV pop-up channel during July 2022.

2) Baroque Opera Gala Concert

This programme of vocal music from some of the most popular 18th century operas, celebrating the virtuosity and broad range of expressions that caused singers of the Baroque period to reach the same level of celebrity as modern-day sport stars, featured a stellar line-up of some of South Africa's leading Baroque singers: Lynelle Kenned (soprano), Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi (soprano), Brittany Smith (soprano), Jason Atherton (tenor) and William Berger (baritone). The concert included music by Handel, Rameau, Pergolesi and Purcell, and was presented in the spectacular late 18th century setting of the Slave Church Museum in Long Street, Cape Town.

Sunday, 24 April 2022, 16:00–17.15, Slave Church Museum, 40 Long St, Cape Town, 8000

Attendance: 160

3) Education programme (see below)

4) Celebrating Handel: The Cape Town Baroque Orchestra with Lynelle Kenned (soprano)

This programme of vocal and instrumental music by George Frideric Handel (1685–1759), celebrated this giant of the late Baroque. The centrepiece of the programme was Handel's *Gloria*, sung by Lynelle Kenned. This composition, which was probably composed very early in Handel's career, was lost for many years and only re-discovered in 2001 in the library of the Royal Academy of Music (London). In addition to the *Gloria*, an organ concerto by Handel as well as a several concerti grossi was heard, with members of the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra as soloists.

- Performance 1: Greyton/Genadendal Classics for All festival, Sunday 22 May, 11.30, Moravian Church, Genadendal

Attendance: 180

- Performance 2: Wednesday 25 May, 20.00, St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, De Waterkant

Attendance: 110

5) 5 – 7 August, Klein Karoo Klassique Festival

Handel at Home

Members of the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra were joined by sopranos Lynelle Kenned and Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi, in a programme of chamber works for instruments and voices by G.F. Handel (1685–1759). Part of the programme consisted of chamber duets, a genre that the young Handel was exposed to as a student in Rome. Many years later several of these duets served as inspiration for choruses in his well-known oratorio *Messiah*. Baroque oboist Ingo Müller played a sonata for oboe and also joined the singers in an Italian cantata. The CTBO's Artistic Director, Erik Dippenaar, performed Handel's well-loved *Harmonious Blacksmith* variations.

With: Lynelle Kenned and Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi (sopranos), Ingo Müller (baroque oboe), Cheryl de Havilland baroque cello) and Erik Dippenaar (harpsichord, Director).

Monday 8 August, 18.00, Oudtshoorn

Attendance: 80

6) September/October, 2022 Cape Town Baroque Festival (see separate report)

7) 11 October, Handel at Home

Repeat concert as part of the 2022 Toyota US Woordfees.

With: Lynelle Kenned and Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi (sopranos), Ingo Müller (baroque oboe), Cheryl de Havilland baroque cello) and Erik Dippenaar (harpsichord, Director).

Tuesday 11 October, 20.00, Endler Hall, Stellenbosch

Attendance: 110

8) 23 October, Four Nations with Matthias Maute (recorder and traverso)

Besides composing hundreds of violin concerti, Vivaldi also penned a number of concerti for recorder. His famous Le Quattro Stagioni (The Four Seasons) concerti for violin are among the world's most recognized pieces of Baroque music, but a cycle of his recorder concerti was lost. The Cape Town Baroque Orchestra presented the African premiere performance of this cycle (The Four Nations) as reconstructed by Matthias Maute, with Maute(traverso, recorder) as soloist.

Sunday, 23 October, 16:00–17:30, SA Sendinggestigmuseum, 40 Long Street

Attendance: 130

9) 7 December, Angels and Shepherds - A German Baroque Christmas

On 7 December, the instrumentalists of the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra were joined by the singers of the Lutesong Consort, in a concert of festive Christmas music by German Baroque composers for eight solo voices and chamber orchestra. Featured composers included Hammerschmidt, Schütz, Praetorius, Buxtehude and Johann Christoph Bach.

With: Lynelle Kenned, Elsabe Richter (sopranos), Lente Louw, Vasti Zeeman-Knoesen (altos), Willem Bester, Nick de Jager (tenors), Charles Ainslie, Keaton Manwaring (basses) and the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra

Wednesday 7 December, 19:00, St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Somerset Road, De Waterkant

Attendance: 180

2022 EDUCATION PROGRAMME

- After two years of a reduced education programme due to Covid restrictions, our 2022 education programme could resume in full force with workshops on the History of Opera and the History of the Symphony, presented on Saturday 26 February. It was attended by over 200 learners from 16 school across the Western Cape. Many thanks to Michéle de Villiers for organising our education programme so expertly, and to our very loyal and supportive education sponsor, Colin Davies!

- We have offered to cover the tuition costs of four regular CTBO members, Annien Shaw, Valentina Vorster, Ralitza Macheva and Cheryl de Havilland, for the online component of the 2022 Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute (Toronto) during July 2022. The amount of R4354.80 was paid into their bank accounts on Thursday the 5th of May. We are already benefiting from sharing their knowledge and experience with the rest of the CTBO!

- Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the annual 'Schools' Baroque Festival' was replaced by the following alternative:

Saturday, 22 October, 16th RECORDER SYMPOSIUM

The 16th annual Recorder Symposium was proudly presented as a collaboration between the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra, the Stellenbosch University Konservatorium, the Westerford High School

Music Department and the Cape Town Recorder Symposium administrators – Karin Maritz, Birgit Penny, Elizabeth Sole & Barbara Warner-Smith. Matthias Maute (Canada) was the quest speaker, kindly sponsored by the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra.

Date: Saturday, 22 October, (8:30-13:30)

Venue: Imbewu Music Centre, Westerford High School, Mount Road, Rondebosch

Attendance: 72

2022 OUTREACH PROGRAMME - SUNSHINE CONCERTS

We were unable to present any Sunshine Concerts during 2021, mainly due to the timing (late in the year) of Covid-19 and lockdown restrictions. We were, however able to resume our programme in 2022 with 6 concerts during November/December 2022 with a new group of musicians, bringing concerts to people who are otherwise unable to attend live performances. All concerts were received with much enjoyment.

- 1) Douglas Murray Home, Cafda Village, Retreat: Saturday, 26 November, 10:00
- 2) Adam's Farm Home, Victoria Road, Plumstead: Thursday, 1 December, 15:30
- 3) Oasis Group Home, 38 Chukker Road, Kenwyn: Saturday, 3 December, 10:00
- 4) Rosedon House, 11 Rosedon Rd, Lansdowne: Tuesday, 13 December 10:00
- 5) Woodside Special Care Centre, Lawson Road, Rondebosch East: Wednesday, 14 December, 10:30
- 6) Nazareth House, Cape Town: Thursday, 5 December 10:00

With: Odile Burden, Craig Williams, Reneé van der Westhuizen (violins), Remi Ludick (viola) and Cheryl de Havilland (cello, organiser)

PUBLICITY AND AUDIENCE BASE:

- Mailing list: 1042 subscribers (October 2022, 1031)
- Facebook page: 1560 followers (October 2022, 1464), 1341 likes (October 2022, 1327)
- Instagram account: 1560 followers (October 2022, 943)
- YouTube: 975 subscribers (October 2022, 597)

TRUST

All operations of the Cape Town Baroque Orchestra and the Cape Town Baroque Festival are overseen by The Camerata Tinta Barocca Music Charitable Trust, which is a registered NPO and PBO. Registration number: IT2889/2006. Trustees: Dr Erik Dippenaar, Dr Wayne Muller, Susan Smith (Chair).

FUNDING

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