



## ARTISTIC REPORT

### 2018 CAPE TOWN BAROQUE FESTIVAL

The second Cape Town Baroque Festival took place from 21 to 23 September 2018. In keeping with the festival's aim, we brought together early music players and singers from across South Africa. This included baroque violinists Ralitza Macheva and Refiloe Olifant from Durban, local sopranos Elsabé Richter and Lynelle Kenned, mezzo soprano Lesibalwethu Sesanti, and organists Mario Nell and Winand Grundling. The following ensembles took part in the 2018 festival: local choir VOX Cape Town, Ensemble Je Ne Comprends Pas and Lutesong Duo.

In addition to the above performers, we also extended the programme this year by inviting two international specialists: South African-born Carin van Heerden (baroque oboe and recorder), international leader in her field, head of the Institute for Early Music and Performance Practice at the Anton Bruckner Privatuniversität in Linz, Austria, and co-founder of the Austrian 'L'Orfeo Barockorchester'; as well as Raphael Pouget (natural trumpet), also from Austria.

The festival had a varied programme, covering almost 200 years of the baroque aesthetic: from 17<sup>th</sup>-century Spanish and Italian music (by festival newcomers, local ensemble 'Lutesong Duo' with guests) to more popular early 18<sup>th</sup>-century repertoire (Vivaldi's *Gloria*) to an all-Mozart duo recital. As a special wild card, 'Ensemble Je Ne Comprends Pas' presented a programme of arrangements of David Bowie's music in a baroque style by Stellenbosch-based composer Jan-Hendrik Harley. The festival programme also included an architectural walking tour and master classes.

#### **Management**

The following people acted as the main festival organisers: Erik Dippenaar (artistic director), Alrich Rooy (finance director), and Louise Howlett, Michael Maas and Alida van der Walt (administrative team). The CTBF takes place under the auspices of Camerata Tinta Barocca and all the operations of CTB are overseen by the CTB Music Charitable Trust, which is a registered NPO and PBO. Our trustees are Quentin Crida, Erik Dippenaar, Adriaan Fuchs, Michael Maas and Sue Smith (Chair). We have two honorary patrons, Antoinette Lohmann and Dr Barry Smith.

## **2018 CTBF programme**

The 2018 festival consisted of eight events (six concerts, a master class session, and an architectural walking tour):

### **Glorious Baroque – CTBF Opening Concert, Friday 21 September, 20:00**

#### **St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, De Waterkant**

With: Lynelle Kenned and Elsabé Richter (sopranos), Lusibalwethu Sesanti (mezzo-soprano), Carin van Heerden (baroque oboe, recorder), Raphael Pouget (natural trumpet), VOX Cape Town and Camerata Tinta Barocca. Directed by Erik Dippenaar (harpsichord and organ).

Programme: Vivaldi – *Gloria* RV589, Telemann – Recorder Concerto in F TWV51:F1, Handel – “Tornami a vagheggiar”, Purcell – Extracts from *King Arthur*, *The Fairy Queen* and *Abdelazer*

### **Recorder master classes with Carin van Heerden, Saturday 22 September, 11:00–14:00**

#### **St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, De Waterkant**

### **Architectural walking tour of UCT Hiddingh Campus with John Rennie**

**Saturday 22 September, 13:30 – 15:30**

**UCT Hiddingh Campus, 31–37 Orange street**

### **David Bowie Reworked, Saturday 22 September 16:00–17:00**

#### **Alexander Upstairs, Alexander Bar, 76 Strand Street**

With: Ensemble Je Ne Comprends Pas – Jan-Hendrik Harley (violin, guitar and direction), Joshua Frank (recorder and guitar), Mariechen Meyer (double bass) and John Pringle (percussion)

### **An evening of Baroque chamber music, Saturday 22 September, 20:00**

#### **Baxter Concert Hall, Rondebosch**

#### **Pre-concert talk by Anna Stoddard, 19:15, Baxter Concert Hall**

With: Carin van Heerden (baroque oboe, recorder) and members of Camerata Tinta Barocca and Baroque2000 (Durban) – Ralitza Macheva, Refiloe Olifant (baroque violins), Bridget Rennie-Salonen (traverso), Emile de Roubaix (baroque viola), Cheryl de Havilland (baroque cello), Henrike Kovats (baroque double bass) and Erik Dippenaar (harpsichord)

Music by Uccellini, Schaffrath, Vivaldi, Hook and Telemann

### **All Mozart organ duo recital, Sunday 23 September, 12:30–13:30**

#### **St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, De Waterkant**

With: Mario Nell and Winand Grundling

All Mozart programme, featuring Fantasias for Organ Duo, Symphony no. 41 'Jupiter'

### **Mixed Doubles – 17<sup>th</sup>-century pop songs for two voices and plucked strings**

**Sunday 23 September, 16:00–17:00**

#### **South African Slave Church Museum, 40 Long Street**

With: Lutesong – Lente Louw (mezzo-soprano), Uwe Grosser (lute, theorbo, baroque guitar) and guests Willem Bester (tenor) and Vera Vukovic (lute, theorbo)

Programme: Works by Marìn, Mudarra, Kapsperger and Caccini.

### **David Bowie Reworked (repeat performance), Sunday 23 September 21:00–22:00**

#### **Alexander Upstairs, Alexander Bar, 76 Strand Street**

## Publicity

In addition to publicity via the CTB mailing list of just over 1 000 members, the festival ran an extensive social media publicity campaign on Facebook, Instagram and our website ([www.ctbaroque.co.za](http://www.ctbaroque.co.za)), with a reach that is reflected in the following statistics:

- Facebook and Instagram Ad Reach: 241 536 people
- Facebook and Instagram Ad Impressions: 549 969 impressions (each person saw an ad 2.2 times)
- CTB Facebook Page Followers: 630
- CTBF Facebook Event Responses: 941 People (who expressed interest)

This year, the CTBF engaged in a media partnership with Fine Music Radio and, apart from the usual bought advertising time, the festival was covered on the following FMR programmes: *Cape Diary*, Louise Howlett's *For the Love of Opera*, Rodney Trudgeon's *People of Note*, and Anna Stoddard's *Baroque Bon-Bons* (four weekly programmes focussing on various aspects of the festival). Both the *People of Note* and *Baroque Bon-Bons* were made available as podcasts on the FMR website. Features about the festival were run on Radio Sonder Grense, Smile 90.4FM and Radio Kansel, and articles about the festival was published in *Die Burger*, *Imaginomag!*, *Atlantic Sun*, *Weekend Special*, *Volksblad* and various other publications.

## Live broadcast

The opening concert on Friday 21 September was broadcast live on Fine Music Radio, bringing the festival into global reach through live streaming on the FMR website, as well as on DSTV channel 838.

## Concert attendance

This year, the CTBF had an overwhelming response from audiences, with several of the events sold out well in advance.

Concert	Venue	Audience size
Glorious Baroque – Opening concert	St Andrew's	322 (sold out)
Recorder master classes	St Andrew's	75
Architectural walking tour	UCT Hiddingh Campus	30
David Bowie Reworked (22 Sept)	Alexander Upstairs	40 (sold out)
An evening of Baroque chamber music	Baxter Concert Hall	436
All Mozart organ duo recital	St Andrew's	80
Mixed Doubles – 17 <sup>th</sup> -century pop songs	SA Slave Church Museum	53
David Bowie Reworked (23 Sept)	Alexander Upstairs	40 (sold out)

## Training young players in period instrument playing

In the long run, the CTBF aims to invest substantially into the training of young, local players of period instruments. On Saturday 22 September, Carin van Heerden presented a morning of master classes to young South African recorder students. Individual master classes were taught to Jessica Daniels (Stellenbosch University) and high school learners Jeanni Verwey and Conner Lane. The morning was ended by a recorder ensemble from Stellenbosch University under the direction of Karin Maritz. The students taking part in this were: Jessica Daniels, Litha Mafila, Kim Classen, Caterina Reigl, Lauren Ramsey, Gemma Hall and Tony Rooms. Nine learners from CTB's Matzikama Music Week education project in Vredendal also attended the master classes as observers. The CTBF offered complementary tickets to all students and learners involved in the master classes to all of the other festival events.

## **Collaborations**

In the 2018 festival we had several new collaborations with:

- the Cape Town Concert Series, in the chamber music concert on Saturday evening 22 September, Baxter Concert Hall
- the South African Slave Church Museum; the Mixed Doubles concert formed part of their Heritage Weekend cultural programme.
- Alexander Upstairs; the theatre attached to Alexander Bar in Strand Street hosted our David Bowie Reworked cross-over programme.

## **Employment**

The CTBF is proud to have employed 25 local musicians during the course of the festival and the weeks preceding it, as well as eight administrative staff covering the organisational aspect of the festival (including publicity, marketing, design and various administrative responsibilities).

## **Feedback from our audience members**

'I think what has struck me most about the Cape Town Baroque Festival, besides, of course, the world-class performances, is the excellent and very clever programming, particularly as many of the composers heard over the weekend are considered "lesser-known". All the musicians and soloists have been absolutely brilliant, both local and international, but special mention must go to Lutesong Duo and Camerata Tinta Barocca. Bravissimo, Erik Dippenaar and all involved!' – Stephen Carletti

'Such a great performance last night! Wonderful musicianship, Erik Dippenaar and everyone else. Cape Town music just gets better.' – Grant McLachen

'What a privilege to attend the opening concert of the Cape Town Baroque Festival at St Andrews, a sold out show. So energising and uplifting' – Chris von Ulmenstein

'AL die spelers van die hele naweek was uitstaande, en daar was nie een stukkie musiek waarvan ek nie gehou het nie. So, my laaste woord oor CTBF 2018 is dat ek dit vir niks in die wêreld sou gemis het nie.' – Thea Grobbelaar

## **Sponsors**

The 2018 CTBF gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Rupert-Musiekstigting, Bill van Rensburg and the Cape Town Theatre Trust.

Erik Dippenaar

**Artistic Director: Cape Town Baroque Festival**

**Artistic Director: Camerata Tinta Barocca**