

CTB'S TRAVELLING CONCERT PROGRAM: THE SUNSHINE CONCERTS 2019



In December we played our Sunshine concerts to members of the Cape Town community for the 11th year in succession. These concerts give us the opportunity to reach out with our music to people who would otherwise not be able to hear music live.

Our string quartet played concerts at the following six venues:

Oasis Workshop, Claremont; Adams Farm, Plumstead; Woodside Special Care Centre, Rondebosch; Nazareth House, Elsies River and Cape Town, and Rosedon House, Rondebosch.

<u>Oasis Workshop</u>, Claremont is a home for people with intellectual disabilities and is based in Claremont.

We were received very warmly at Oasis and because of the large numbers wanting to listen to us (about 120) we played two slightly shorter concerts for them. They were excited to hear our music and sang very enthusiastically to the carols that we played. The morning was definitely a very positive start to our series of Sunshine concerts and a request was made to not leave it so long before we returned to play again!



"The beneficiaries enjoyed the Sunshine Quartet's music so much in other songs they sang along; they wish the Quartet will be able to visit again in the near future. I have no doubt that Sunshine Quartet's members noticed the joy they brought to our beneficiaries that morning.

Oasis wish them all the best in 2020 and beyond."

Adams Farm, Plumstead, is a long-term residential care facility for women with intellectual disabilities. We have played at this home several years in succession and the ladies are always very excited to see us and to hear us play. They love to dance, sing or just listen to the music and it is clearly is a great joy to them.

"Thank you so much for indulging our ladies with your amazing gift of music! The ladies thoroughly enjoyed it & could not stop talking about it, they shared the experience with their family members.

Please feel free to come & play music at Adams Farm Home whenever you can."

<u>Woodside Special Care Centre</u> is a residential home caring for profoundly intellectually and physically disabled residents.

This year we played in a larger event which took the form of a carol concert and it was held in their garden to accommodate the larger numbers. We were joined by the staff choir who sang Christmas carols and beautiful African traditional songs, as well as a couple of solo singers affiliated to the Woodside staff. At the concert there was a mix of Woodside residents, together with their family members, as well as Woodside staff.

Nazareth House, Elsies Rivier is a home that cares for the sick, destitute, aged and under privileged. These elderly residents were musically well informed, but unable to travel to concerts, so they were especially appreciative of our music. Both they and their nurses loved all our classical pieces as well as the Christmas songs that they requested, and they sang along enthusiastically to these. It seems these pieces reminded them of their past times and memories.





Rosedon House is a residential facility for adults with Cerebral Palsy. This year Rosedon House contacted us in advance to ask if we would be visiting them and they became very excited about our upcoming concert; they also requested several items before our arrival. The residents and staff at Rosedon House love to sing, and music obviously brings them to life in a special way. There is one member who last year decided to conduct us; our music is clearly a highlight for him, as well as the residents, as he entertains everyone with his energy and enthusiasm!

Below is an interesting letter received from the manager at Rosedon House, after we had played there.

Everyone enjoyed the music and singing. The highlight was our very own Maestro!

Three weeks ago one of our residents could not walk by himself, all tests were done, all tests came out clear. We then discovered it was a psychologic problem. I said to him its

nearly Christmas and we will be having the musicians coming to play Christmas Carols.

He paused for a bit and said "oh I have to get better and not use a walking aid". He said I have to get better because I must conduct!!



Our "Maestro" conducting us at Rosedon House!

Nazareth House, Cape Town, cares for the sick, destitute, aged and under privileged. At this home we played for a smaller number of residents plus some non-residents (about 20 in total). We were joined by staff as well as a few badly burnt children who were brought in by wheelchair. This was a fairly subdued audience, and they appreciated our music in a quieter way than some groups. The children were very enthusiastic about the numbers they could sing along to.

Thank you so much for the time you made available. Some of the ladies could not stop speaking about the show and how amazing it was. The kids also seemed to enjoy it, and the chance to hold the bow was a something else!

Thank you to you and your team, and may you continue to bless others (and the residents of Nazareth) with your group. Merry Christmas/ Happy Holidays!



In conclusion

As always, our concerts brought a great deal of joy to members of these communities who would otherwise not be able to hear any live music. Almost everyone we played to, both young and old, live with challenging conditions or circumstances, and we appreciate the privilege of making music for them and seeing what a real impact music can have in their lives.

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.

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