

"Music for a while"



UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA

TUKS *Camerata*
Johann van der Sandt



UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA CAMERATA

The CAMERATA was officially established on 20 March 1968. Its mission is to make a contribution towards the cultural development of the student corps and the cultural enrichment of the community by means of choral singing, to promote a worthy image of the University of Pretoria through striving towards the highest possible artistic standards, with a code of conduct that meets the highest requirements of companionship.

The choir operates under the auspices of the Department of Music of the University of Pretoria. High artistic values have always been the goal for all the conductors: Adolf Theron, Willem van Tonder, Petru Gräbe and from January 1999, Johann van der Sandt.

International concert tours include: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Namibia, Netherlands, Republic of China, Russia, Singapore, South America, Sweden, the USA and Zimbabwe.

Achievements of the choir:

- 1989 & 1993 – Roodepoort International Eisteddfod of South Africa, First Prize for Mixed Choirs.
- 1994 – Tallin Choir Festival (Estonia), First Prize for Mixed Choirs.
- 1996 – Fourth International Symposium on Choral Music, Sydney (Australia), Guest Choir.
- 1999 – International Choral Competition for Advent And Christmas Music, Prague (Czech Republic), Category winners and Overall winner of the competition.

- 2001 – SNK International Choral Competition Arnhem (The Netherlands), Second Prize for Mixed Choirs.
- Singkreis Porcia International Choral Competition, Spittal (Austria), Winner
- 2002 – 6th World Choral Symposium, Minneapolis (United States of America), Guest Choir.

Larger scope works include: *Missa Criolla* (Ramirez), *The Messiah* (Händel), *Weihnachtsoratorium* (Bach), *Missa Solemnis* (Mozart), *Ein Deutsches Requiem* (Brahms), *Cantus Missae* (Rheinberger), *Mass in E minor* (Bruckner), *Requiem* (Fauré), *Requiem* (Mozart), *Elijah* (Fauré), *Magnificat* (Bach), *a Carol Cantata* (Hendrik Hofmeyr).

“Cantate cordibus, Cantate oribus, Cantate moribus”
Sing with the heart, sing with the mouth, sing with life
(Augustinus)



JOHANN VAN DER SANDT

Johann received his formal training at the University of Pretoria. His most important training as choral conductor was as a chorister in the University Choir under the direction of Petru Gräbe. In January 1996 he received the Diploma in Choral Conducting at the Instituut voor Dirigente Edukatie, Gorinchem (The Netherlands). He obtained his Doctoral degree in 2001 at the University of Pretoria.



Johann van der Sandt is involved as choral conductor, presenter of workshops and adjudicator of national and international choral festivals and competitions. He regularly attends international choral symposia in order to ensure that he stays well informed about choral singing and all related issues. Previously he was conductor of various school choirs, the East Rand Youth choir and the Rand Afrikaans University Choir.

Van der Sandt developed and introduced a multi-choir model on the campus of the University of Pretoria. The multi-choir model ensures that all tastes and genres of choral singing can be performed.

He is also conductor of the SINGKRONIES Chamber Choir. This choir consists of people standing in professional careers, singing for the love of it. It is with the aim of recording the work of South African composers. The choir won the 1998 award for their recording of the sacred a capella works of the Stellenbosch composer Pieter van der Westhuizen.

Apart from conduction the Tuks Camerata, Johann is a professor in Choral conducting at the University of Pretoria. He is married to Bea de Wit and they have two boys, Janthé and Nelu.

1 HORIZONS

(sung in English)

Pieter Louis van Dijk (*1953)

The text of *Horizons* was written by the composer. In the text, the references to rain and to the eland are significant reminders of the Bushmen's beliefs and reliance on elements of nature. *Horizons* tells the story of the San who were sadly extinguished by the very people (and with the help of other black tribes) they saw as gods in terms of stature and relative opulence.

2 A SEXTA AUTEM HORA

(sung in Latin)

Hendrik Hofmeyr (*1957)

(commissioned by the University of Pretoria Camerata for the World Choral Symposium, Minneapolis)

A sexta autem hora is a motet for 8 voices, based on texts from the Vulgate recounting the death of Christ. The moving and dramatic narrative is vividly portrayed in the music, which makes great technical and interpretative demands on the performers.

3 BLESSED BE THAT MAID MARIE

(sung in English)

Arnold van Wyk (1916–1983)

Text: Old English Carol

This composition for double choir was written in 1949 for Dr Claude Brown and the choir of the Diocesan College in Cape Town. This carol is Van Wyk's only composition set to an English text. The manuscript was found in his house in Stellenbosch, after his death.

4 LOKKIESTER

(sung in Afrikaans)

Roelof Temmingh (*1946)

Accompanist: Willemien Schoombee

The poet Izak Wilhelmus van der Merwe (1897–1967) alias Boerneef wrote wonderful folk poetry. His style is honest, spontaneous and full of humour. Themes used in his works include animals, a love of nature and respect for his parents. Afrikaans is rich in idiomatic expressions and Boerneef excellently succeeds to combine these indigenous idioms and regional language to such an extent that one can call it the “Boerneef-idiom”.

This work makes use of three Boerneef texts – (a,b,c), which have been arranged, without interruption, as follows: a, b, a, c, a, b, a.

5 O VOS OMNES

(sung in Latin)

Pablo Casals (1876–1973)

Text from the Latin Liturgy

Although principally remembered as a cellist, Casals was also an active composer. This dramatic piece, whose words, the impropria or reproaches, derive from the liturgy of Good Friday, probably dates to 1932. It was originally written for tenor and bass voices, and composed for the Benedictine monks of Montserrat. Casals later recast it for SAATB.

6 RUTH (sung in English) Paul Ayres (*1970)

And Ruth said, I will go wherever you go and live wherever you live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. I will die where you die and will be buried there.
(Ruth 1, 16–17)

There are three things that amaze me – no, four things I do not understand: how an eagle glides through the sky, how a snake slithers on a rock, how a ship navigates the ocean, how a man loves a woman. (Proverbs 30, 18–19)
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to know! (Psalms 139, 6)

7 ONSE VADER (sung in Afrikaans) Niel van der Watt (*1962)

The Lord's Prayer, here sung in Afrikaans (Onse Vader) is taken from the St. Ludger Oratorio, composed for the 750th anniversary of the granting of the city charter of Helmstedt, in Germany.

8 RONDO LAPPONICO (sung in Swedo-Lappish) Gunnar Hahn (1908–2001)

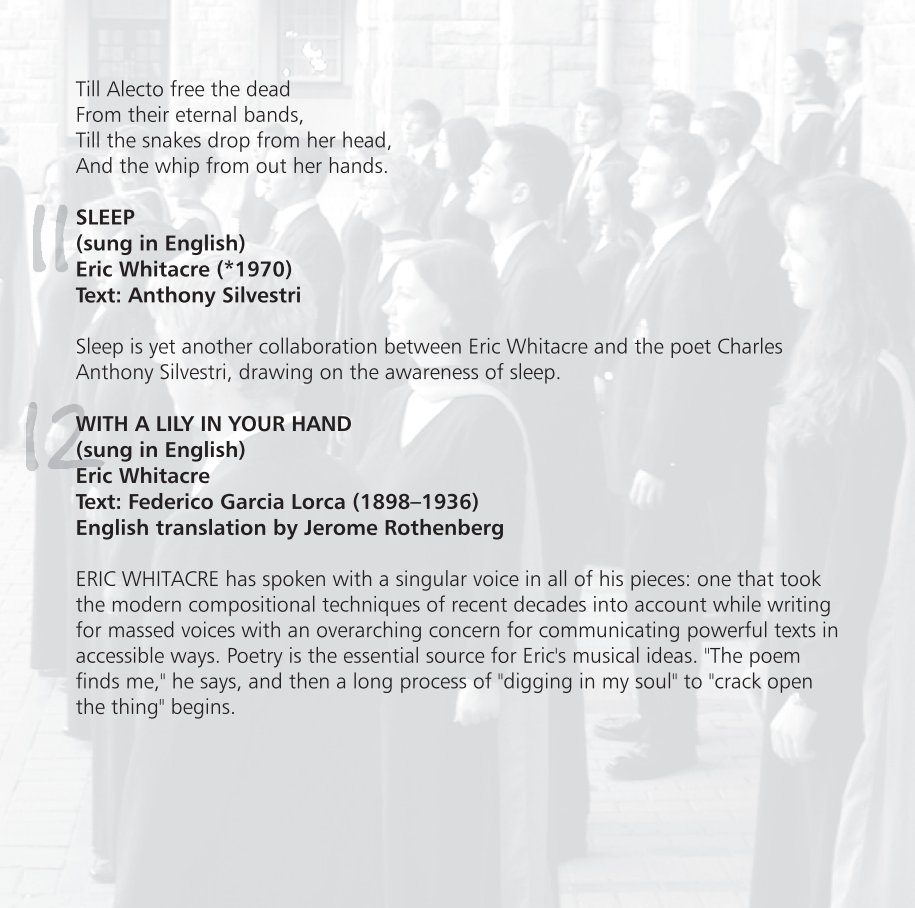
Gunnar Hahn was known to cultivate Swedish folk music. Hahn's extreme consciousness of the timbre of sound gave way to very imaginative compositions and arrangements. The *Rondo Laponico* is a composition that has some elements of the traditional Lappish music in it and playfully makes references to those elements.

9 MUSICA ANIMAM TANGENS (sung in Latin) Joshua Shank (*1980) Text: Ryan Newstrom

The composer chose this text because from the moment he read the text, he knew he would eventually set it to music because it expresses something that any musician knows to be true – that music puts us in touch with a higher power, something inexpressible and infinitely beautiful.

10 MUSIC FOR A WHILE (sung in English) Henry Purcell (1658/9–1695), arr.: Gunnar Eriksson Text: John Dryden (1631–1700)

Music for a while
Shall all your cares beguile:
Wond'ring how your pains were eas'd
And disdain'g to be pleas'd



Till Alecto free the dead
From their eternal bands,
Till the snakes drop from her head,
And the whip from out her hands.

SLEEP

(sung in English)

Eric Whitacre (*1970)

Text: Anthony Silvestri

Sleep is yet another collaboration between Eric Whitacre and the poet Charles Anthony Silvestri, drawing on the awareness of sleep.

WITH A LILY IN YOUR HAND

(sung in English)

Eric Whitacre

Text: Federico Garcia Lorca (1898–1936)

English translation by Jerome Rothenberg

ERIC WHITACRE has spoken with a singular voice in all of his pieces: one that took the modern compositional techniques of recent decades into account while writing for massed voices with an overarching concern for communicating powerful texts in accessible ways. Poetry is the essential source for Eric's musical ideas. "The poem finds me," he says, and then a long process of "digging in my soul" to "crack open the thing" begins.

13 AGNUS DEI

(sung in Latin)

Samuel Barber (1910–1981)

Samuel Barber is widely known for his famous *Adagio for Strings*, the slow movement of a string quartet he wrote in 1936. Barber arranged it again later on for a *capella* choir, singing the words to *Agnus Dei*. The *Agnus Dei*'s slow, shifting layers of sound are so uncomfortably close to that feeling of sadness, it is very hard not to recall lost love, distant memories and helplessness at the passage of time.

There's no real complication to the *Agnus Dei*, no technique or unusual turn of harmony that holds the secret of its success. One cannot even pick one passage over another, any more than you can say one point makes the beauty of an arch.

14 LUX AURUMQUE

(sung in Latin)

Eric Whitacre

Text: Edward Esch

The composer decided upon the poem by Edward Esch because of its genuine, elegant simplicity. Whitacre had it translated into Latin. A simple compositional approach was followed and gave way to the success of the work.

CHOIR MEMBERS (2002/2003)



AD Viljoen
Adam Willemse
Adri Bouma
Amelia de Vaal
Amorié Taljaardt
Andries Mouton
Annette Theron
Anria Horn
Barend Stapelberg
Brandon Hill
Caro Grey
Chantell Cronje
Charlotte-Louise Heyns
Christiaan Odendaal
Christine Viviers
Christo Burger
Colette Bester
Danie du Toit
Dewald van den Heever
Dewald van Staden
Divya Paul
Elana Swanepoel
Elias Nombula
Elma Kotze
Elnize Wolmarans
Elze-Mari Greyling
Erica Relou
Ernie North
Francois Combrinck
Gerhard Pienaar

Gretchen Ströh
Hanli Terblanche
Heloïse van den Bergh
Henk Wessels
Henno Botha
Ilana van der Merwe
Ilani Grobler
Ivan Sharp
Jaco Geldenhuys
Jacqueline Woudstra
Jacques Douglas
Janita Holtzhauzen
Janro Grey
Japie Buys
Jattie de Beer
Johan Deyzel
Johan Griesel
Johannes Matsimbi
Johannie Roos
Jonét van den Heever
Juliet Kavishe
Karen Lee
Karin-Marie Grobellaar
Lafra Moolman
Lana Weideman
Lecia du Plessis
Leon Gropp
Lisl Möhr
Lize Strydom
Louise le Roux

Lueldi Malherbe
Magdalize Carstens
Marica Hattingh
Marina Malan
Marlien Marais
Maxine Milton
Michael Barrett
Monica Lindeque
Naomi Visser
Neo Mashigo
Njabo Nyawo
Philna Badenhorst
Pieter Odendaal
Pieter Scholtz
Pieter van der Merwe
Retha Weideman
Richardt Kok
Roland Meyer
Rose Mooketsi
Ruben Filter
Tumi Mabogoane
Ursula Fourie
Waldo van der Merwe
Werner Badenhorst
Werner de Waal
Werner Kruger
Wiehahn Francke
Willem Theron
Wilmien Theron
Zana Taljaardt

CONDUCTOR

Prof. Johann van der Sandt
Tel no +2712 420 4182
Fax no +2712 420 4351
e-mail: johann.vandersandt@up.ac.za

VOICE TRAINER

Isabella Eksteen

CHOIR MANAGER / CONTACT DETAILS

Philippa Kotzé
University of Pretoria
Department of Music
Pretoria 0001
RSA
Tel no +2712 420 2947
Fax no +2712 420 4351
e-mail: philippa.kotze@up.ac.za

DESIGN

Fdotcom / Puisano

RECORDINGS

Tracks 1–4: *Live recordings of concerts (please note that background noises and distortions will occur)*

Tracks 5–12: *recorded by PROSPECT STUDIOS (Proprietary) Limited in the Musaion, University of Pretoria.*

Tracks 13–14: *Recordings made by CEISAR'S SOUND in the Voortrekker Monument, Pretoria.*

