

GEORGE MUSIC SOCIETY

2018 CONCERT SERIES

George Music Society was formed in 1959, and has since then promoted fine music in the town & Eden District. Both overseas and local artists are sourced, either through music agents or directly, to perform for members of the Society & the music loving public. Membership of GMS affords a significant discount on ticket prices. The Society is managed by a committee, and being voluntary, welcomes new members to assist in the running of the Society's affairs and bring new ideas. Details about GMS can be found on our website at www.georgemusicsociety.co.za

Nikolas Kende & Jolente De Maeyer Fri 2 February - Arts Theatre



Our 2018 series of concerts begins with musicians **Nikolaas Kende** (piano) and **Jolente De Mayer** (violin), hailing from Antwerp in Belgium. They have proven to be firm audience favourites. The duo has been playing together since 2003, and this is their first concert tour to South Africa. Their new recording of the Beethoven Kreutzer Sonata for Violin and Piano was awarded the Golden Label award in June 2016. Both have been competitors and winners at major European music competitions. Their playing "illustrates 'hand in glove' precision and sensitive dialogue."

James Grace & Morgan Szymanski Thurs 15 March - Arts Theatre



Featuring two of the world's foremost classical guitarists, Mexican-born **Morgan Szymanski**, sharing the stage with British-born South African-based guitarist **James Grace**.

James is a graduate of the Royal College of Music in London, and became the first guitarist in the history of the college to receive the Tagore Gold Medal.

Morgan has been highlighted as 'One to Watch' by both Gramophone Magazine and the BBC Music Magazine. Born in Mexico City in 1979, he started playing the guitar at the age of six. Early studies at the National Music School (Mexico) and the Edinburgh Music School led to a scholarship to study at the Royal College of Music in London, graduating in 2004 with first class honours.

Hungarian Trio

Fri 11 May - Arts Theatre



Nerina von Mayer (flute); studied in Cape Town, Vienna and London and holds a B.Mus and M.Mus in Performance, and won the Jules Kramer Award for Best Woodwind Player. Nerina has been the alternate Principal Flute in the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra and CTPO for 16 years. After heading the Flute Department at UCT's College of Music for many years, she now holds the position of External Examiner for Woodwinds at UCT.

Gabor Jeney (violin); was born and studied in Hungary at the Bela Bartok Conservatoire and London's Royal College of Music. Benjamin Britten composed the "Gemini Variations" for Gabor and his twin brother. As a soloist, Gabor has recorded for Decca and BBC.

Donat Pellei (double bass); was born in Hungary and studied at the Frank Liszt Music Academy and the Bela Bartok Conservatoire in Budapest. The winner of the Franz Liszt Double Bass Prize in 1987, he received two Performing Diplomas with distinction.

He toured Europe with several Hungarian orchestras before joining the CTSO and CTPO as Sub-Principal Bass and now actively teaches, performing on a freelance basis with the CPO.

Young Musicians Gala Concert

Fri 1 June - Arts Theatre



George Music Society has organised this music competition for local talent for more than 25 years. It showcases the many talented musicians in our town. Auditions will be on 7 May, from which the finalists are selected to perform at a **Gala Concert**. This year GMS has moved the audition and concert date to earlier in the year, which we hope will better suit both learners and their teachers.

Please encourage family & friends who are lovers of quality live music to join George Music Society, by sharing this music series bulletin with them.

For further information about membership visit our website at www.georgemusicsociety.co.za or in person at 'The Office', Precap Centre, Courtenay St. George (044) 873 3143, or email us at georgemusicsociety@gmail.com

Bella Rosa Quartet

Fri 24 August- Arts Theatre



Albert Combrink (piano); is a multi-faceted artist working in a variety of genre from classical, instrumental and vocal accompaniment, chamber music, musicals, Opera, Jazz and Tango, as well as composer and arranger.

Sally Minter (flute); obtained her BA Mus. Honours from the University of Cape Town with distinction and then obtained a MA Arts with merit from the Royal Academy of Music in London. During her time in London, Sally performed under the baton of esteemed conductor Marin Alsop .

Pieter-Adriaan Stofberg (cello); graduated with B.Mus Performance under the guidance of Marian Lewin at the University of Cape Town. In 2014 he received his Post Grad. Certificate in Education along with a Performance Licentiate from Trinity College in London.

Louise Howlett, (soprano); originally from England, studied at the Royal College of Music. She came to South Africa in 1993 for a gap year to work as Organiser for the National Chamber Orchestra in the North West, but soon decided to make South Africa her home.

Charl du Plessis Trio

Sun 21 Oct - Arts Theatre



The Charl du Plessis Trio returns to the George Music Society for a celebration of vocal music, but with no vocalist in sight! The instrumental versions of some of the world's most popular opera arias, alongside evergreen songs from the world of jazz make for an interesting attraction of music from opposite worlds. The dramatic tension of opera arias by Verdi, Rossini and Mozart meet the gentle and easy sounds of songs like Autumn Leaves, Django and Caravan. In 2017 the Charl du Plessis Trio won a SAMA Award for Best Classical CD and released Baroqueswing . Vol. III - their first international recorded DVD and CD box set.

Lente Louw & Uwe Grosser

Sun 11 Nov - Arts Theatre



The **Lutesong** duo consists of classically trained mezzo soprano Lente Louw, and Uwe Grosser, lute builder and early music specialist with over thirty years of experience. The Cape Town based husband and wife duo is dedicated to stylish performances of the English, Italian, German, Spanish and French lute song repertoire from the 16th and 17th centuries.

Lente Louw is a firmly established oratorio soloist, chamber music and ensemble singer in Cape Town. For the past seven years she has specialized in early music. As a member of the Cape Consort, she sang in around sixty concerts between 2010 and 2016.

Uwe Grosser studied guitar and Bavarian folk music in Munich. Over the past 15 years Uwe has forged strong musical ties with South Africa and has played with Ensemble Refugium, the Cape Consort, and Cape Town Opera. Uwe builds most of his instruments himself and teaches guitar at Rondebosch Boys High School.

More detailed information is emailed to members & friends of GMS prior to each concert. Advance bookings for all concerts , approximately two weeks before, will be available at the booking office of the Arts Theatre, York Street, George, and via the GMS website at

www.georgemusicsociety.co.za
