

The 1<sup>st</sup> Stellenbosch University International Choral Conducting Symposium

**VOICES OF SOUTH AFRICA**

The 4<sup>th</sup> International Federation for Choral Music Multicultural Choral Conference

Concert 4  
3 April 2009

**School- & Youth Choirs**

Louis Botha Technical High School Choir  
*Annemarie van der Walt*

Con Spirito Choir (Florida High School)  
*Ralf Schmitt*

Bloemhof Accelerande Choir  
*Marijke de Villiers-Roos*

Siyacula Youth Choir  
*Marijke de Villiers-Roos / Engelhardt #Uareb*

## Programme

### **Louis Botha Choir Technical High School**

Conductor: *Annemarie van der Walt*

Accompanist: *Elsa van Zyl*

1. *Traditional songs from France, Britain and South Africa*  
Works learned in Cross Cultural Sessions with Joy Hill
2. *In My Life* Arr. Steve Zegree
3. *Skierlik* Traditional Sotho
4. *Hallelujeah* Branko Stark  
Work learned in Cross Cultural Sessions  
with Branko Stark (b. 1954)
5. *Deliwe* Traditional Xhosa

The choir of Louis Botha Technical High School in Bloemfontein has obtained first positions and gold certificates from the South African Schools Choral Eisteddfod, Free State Eisteddfod and the ATKV-Apploous Choral Festival. They have been invited to take part in several choir festivals throughout the country, have also been invited to be the residential choir at the IFCM Voices of South Africa Conference in April 2009 in Stellenbosch and have been invited to take part in *The Commonwealth Resounds!* which will take place in Trinidad and Tobago in November 2009.

### **Con Spirito Choir (Florida High School)**

Conductor: *Ralf Schmitt*

Accompanist: *Marguerite Schmitt*

1. *MLK* Paul Hewson  
(b. 1960)
2. *Weenen* Dan Heyman  
(b. 1960)
3. *Stuur Groete aan Mannetjies Roux* Chris Torr  
(b. 1949)
4. *Lioness's Hunt* Lebo Morake  
(b. 1964)

5. *Gloria*

R. Schmitt  
(b. 1982)

The Florida High School Choir (Con Spirito) was established in 1976 by Dora le Roux and consisted of only 31 choristers. Later conductors include Petra Venter, Johan Bester, Vaughan van Zyl, and currently Ralf Schmitt. Con Spirito enjoys a wonderful partnership with the Pro Musica Theatre in Roodepoort and has thus been involved in numerous productions such as Haydn's *Die Schöpfung*, Gounod's *Messe Solennelle*, Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. The choir received first place in the National Terisano Eisteddfod in 2006 and second place in 2008. This year the choir recorded their latest album titled *Stuur Groete*.

INTERVAL

**Bloemhof Accelerando Choir**

Conductor: *Marijke de Villiers-Roos*

Accompanist: *Suné van Wyk*

1. *Jesu, Salvator Mundi* Menegali
2. *Can You Hear Me?* Bob Chilcott  
(b. 1955)
3. *Ride the Chariot* African-American Spiritual  
Arr. The Kronos

The Bloemhof choir has made its mark at national and international level under well-known South African conductors like Acáma Fick, Gerda von Mollendorff, Zorada and Roelof Temmingh, Danie Smit and Rudolf de Beer. Currently under the direction of Marijke de Villiers-Roos the name "Accelerando" was added to the name of the choir to signify renewed energy, and the choir started experimenting with some lighter items and world music. Accelerando was involved in workshops with Scott Leithead and members of Kokopelli, hosted members of the Namibian Mascato Coastal Youth Choir ensemble called "Nin'Jazz", and in an evening of cultural exchange with the Wisconsin Eau-Claire Women's Concert Chorale.

**Siyacula Youth Choir**

Conductors:

*Marijke de Villiers-Roos*

*Engelhardt #Unaeb*

1. *Lengonyama* Traditional Xhosa
2. *Singaba hambayotina* Traditional Xhosa/Zulu

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|---|---------------------------------|
| 3. <i>'Nkos Uzubenam</i>  | Traditional Xhosa               |
| 4. <i>Ribolele senta</i>  | Traditional Damara<br>(Namibia) |
| 5. <i>Emakhayeni</i>  | Traditional Xhosa               |
| 6. <i>Praise His Holy Name</i><br>Work learned in Cross Cultural Session<br>with Marian Dolan     | Keith Hampton<br>b. 1957        |
| 7. <i>Bawo Thixo Somandla</i><br>Work learned in Cross Cultural Session<br>with Mzilikazi Khumalo | Traditional Xhosa               |

Established in 2003, Siyacula is a multicultural youth choir of learners from all corners of the Winelands district of the Western Cape with its mission to create new musical opportunities for youths from the broader community, and to foster contact, through a shared love of music, among teenagers across social and economic boundaries. The Xhosa word "Siyacula" means: We Are Singing. Siyacula has been involved in several cultural exchange events with choirs from abroad, and has developed a very close relationship with the Kokopelli Youth Choir (from Edmonton, Canada), and lately also with the Mascato Coastal Youth Choir (from Swakopmund, Namibia).

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"Whatever the source or style, whatever its source of appeal, music is the *sound* art. Once we have valued a pattern of sound for its own sake, a musical event has occurred....These patterns of sound that we call *music* are not just "interesting" from an intellectual point of view. They also can produce within us emotions of varying degrees and kinds. The way we respond to them is controlled mainly by the particular music we are hearing, but also by our individual personalities and past experiences."

William Thomson (Music for Listeners)