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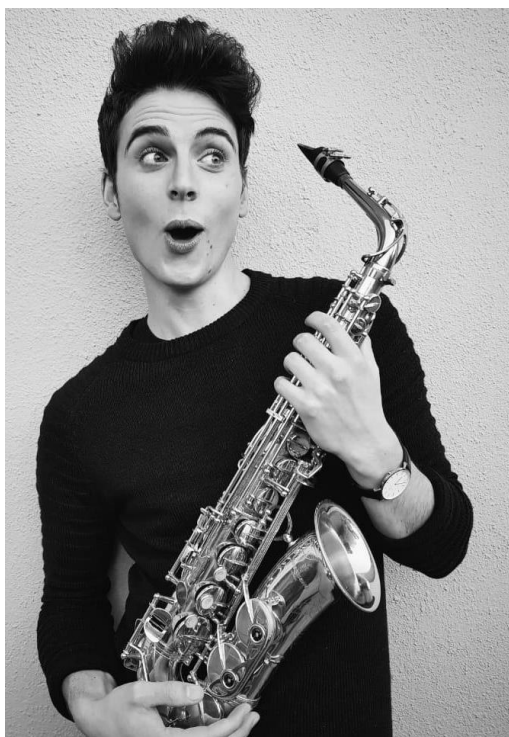


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Ladybird International Arts Academy • Newsletter • 2019:2

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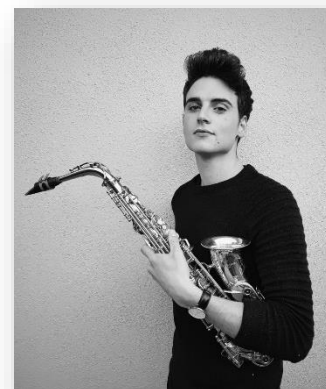
Patrons Ongoing Inspiration



During the Renaissance a patron of the arts assisted to support starving artists. However, financially, not with food rations. The word patron comes from the Latin *pater* or *patr* – meaning ‘father’... A patron of the arts is usually someone who shows appreciation or support for the arts by donating money to arts organizations. The Ladybird Patrons are the ‘angels’ over the work we do. The concept, ethos and business development of the Academy is mainly due to the intellectual and emotional support of our Patrons. No financial support is derived from these esteemed *personae*. Their ongoing support regarding all other aspects of the Academy is highly appreciated and incalculable in value. All our Patrons are connected, one way of the other, to the arts industry on a national or international level. We are humbled to be associated with, and continuously inspired by them.

It is a privilege to welcome **Rikus Coetsee** on board as a new Patron. He is a Stellenbosch-based saxophonist who was born and raised in the rural setting of Ladybrand, Free State. At the age of nine, he started studying the piano at the Ladybird International Arts Academy, and five years later he took up saxophone. During his high school career, he has taken part in competitions both locally and abroad.

He graduated with a B. Mus, specializing in saxophone performance under the tutelage of Darryl Walters, in 2018. He is currently enrolled for a Hons. B. Mus with a performance bursary he was awarded by the US for 2019. During his time at the Stellenbosch Conservatoire, he also studied clarinet with Jimmy Reinders. He has been a member of the University of Stellenbosch Brass Ensemble since 2014 and was appointed principle saxophonist from 2015 onwards. He has performed with the University of Stellenbosch Symphony Orchestra - under the baton of Maestro Corvin Matei. He has also performed as band member and soloist with the University of Stellenbosch Jazz band, sharing the stage with musicians such as



Sibongile Khumalo, Gloria Bosman and Amanda Strydom. Rikus Coetsee was chosen to perform as soloist alongside the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra at the annual National Youth Concerto Festival (NYCF), held in Durban, as part of the 2018 World Symphony Series Early Spring Season.

We were graced by a visit of Patron, **Pieter van der Linde**, during January. It was indeed lovely to receive him – especially for an art session. Sincere thanks for the motivational visit.

It is inspiring to see patrons out in the national or international circuit of stage performance. As always, **Sandile Mabaso**, is busy and booked up with a splendid line-up of concerts. Be sure to attend if you are anywhere near where he might be staging a concert with his splendid tenor voice.

Two Ladybird Patrons, **Caleb Cindano** of CamelEye Productions and soprano **Emily Dangwa** – both living Namibia – engaged in a song-writing and video collaboration for the benefit of VARTA at the end of 2018. The song, Cry Mother Africa, written as the theme music for a fundraising promotion video to promote Rhino conservation and anti-poaching of these magnificent African animals, was at the heart of this collaboration.

Me Dangwa was invited to perform in a corporate concert and dinner in the middle of the Namib, under the stars, which included the famous opera aria, Nessun Dorma, from Puccini's opera Turandot. Corporate Gear Events was the coordinators of the event, which was set where the movie Mad Max with Mel Gibson and Tian Turner was filmed.



Ode to Autumn 15 March

Have you booked yet?

Do not miss out on the Ladybird International Arts Academy's annual Ode of the changing of the seasons, **Autumn Canticles**, at 7pm in their Auditorium on 15 March 2019. The audience can look forward to a programme of lovely classical, romantic, jazzy solos as well as zesty ensemble music. Bookings with Letitia on +27 (0)51 924 5076 or infoladybird@telkomsa.net

R50 pp
There are limited seating, so secure your seats before the tickets are sold out.

Ladybird International Arts Academy
presents

Autumn
蝶 **Canticles**

天道虫

Ladybird Auditorium • South Africa
15 March 2019 • 7 pm
R50 pp
Booking during office hours
+27(0)51 924 5076
infoladybird@telkomsa.net

Welcome to Ladybird, Chef Gogo



It was the privilege to welcome this week to the staff, Susan van der Linde, as our own Chef Gogo as presenter of the Stitch & Cook for Children programme. Chef Gogo is a seasoned educator, culinary expert with an esteemed academic background. We are looking forward to sharing her rich experience with the Ladybird students, and developing this programme into joyful measures of life-skills for children, in this specialized field. Let's COOK!



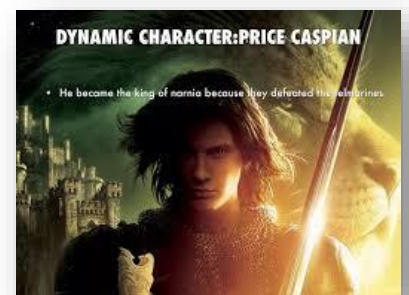
'Terminologies' of the Week

What is...?

- ✚ **In music** – A **SLUR** is a symbol in Western musical notation indicating that the notes it embraces are to be played without separation, i.e. with legato articulation. A slur is denoted with a curved line generally placed over the notes if the stems point downward, and under them if the stems point upwards:



- ✚ **In dramatic arts** - **DYNAMIC CHARACTER**: Undergoes an important change in the course of the play- not changes in circumstances, but changes in some sense within the character in question - changes in insight or understanding or changes in commitment, or values.



- ✚ **In visual arts** – **DRY BRUSH** – A painting technique in which, as the name suggests, a little bit of paint is put on a dry brush. When applied to a surface, it produces a broken, scratchy effect. Dry brush application lends texture to an artwork.





Royal Moscow Ballet | 12 March | Sand du Plessis Theatre

Produced by: Edouard Maisnikov

Art Director: Anatoly Emelianov

Date: 12 March 2019

Ticket Prices: R200 – R350



PERFORMING TIPS

For many students this time of the year not only spells the prospect of the ABRSM music exams but perhaps also performing at an end of term Autumn Canticle concerts. If pre-performance nerves are already starting to show, it may help to focus on mental preparation as well as practicing your pieces. The same applies to drama performances.



Pre-performance nerves are extremely common, even among professional performers. Most of us will have experienced a dry mouth, sweaty hands, the shakes or even butterflies in the stomach – none of which are obviously helpful for a performer. If controlled effectively, however, these feelings and sense of alertness can actually help to give a performance the edge.

Here are our top tips for students to help you cope with performance anxiety and turn feelings of nervousness to your advantage.

Keep fit!

In the run-up to a performance, eating and resting properly are essential. If a performer is tired and run-down, they will start to doubt their abilities, and this leads to increased nervousness before and during the performance.



Failing to prepare is preparing to fail

All performers should know the venue location and what they are playing well in advance of a performance. Ideally try to have a dress rehearsal. This is not always possible, so we recommend that performers prepare themselves in plenty of time for their performance in order to stay calm and control their nerves on the night.

Visualise success

This is something that top athletes do before taking part in competitions and is a powerful way to focus the mind! Before starting their daily practice, you could spend a couple of minutes visualising yourself giving a confident and successful performance – emotions that you can then replicate on the stage or during an exam.

Practise performing in front of friends and family

Playing in front of an audience is a very different experience to practising in private. Once you're comfortable with your repertoire, ask family or friends to listen. Even a small and supportive audience is enough to make most people feel a little on edge, and is good preparation for the real thing.

Controlled breathing

A common symptom of nervousness is a quickening of the breathing. One of the best ways to calm down is to get control of your breathing. Why not try practising some breathing exercises; breathing in through the nose gently to the count of five and then breathing out through the mouth? Focus on counting your breaths and continue doing this until you feel calm and in control.

Smile

When you walk into the exam room or onto the stage, smile at the audience. This may sound easier said than done, but you'll be amazed at how much better this can make you feel. The act of smiling, even if you don't really feel like it, encourages the release of endorphins (the body's feel-good chemicals). These endorphins improve your state of mind and help you to relax.

Concentrate on the essence

Make sure you don't forget why you started playing an instrument, singing or doing drama in the first place! Before a performance, remind yourself that you are about to share pieces that you (hopefully!) enjoyed learning and playing, and focus on communicating this enjoyment to the audience.

Don't worry about mistakes

Everyone, but everyone, makes mistakes. They are a normal part of live performance and nobody really minds hearing the odd slip in a concert – especially if it is done with flair! It is much more important to enjoy the performance and make it involving and exciting, than it is to get hung up on trying to be perfect.



Children's Art

If young children's art does not look like young children's art, then it was probably not done by young children. Beware of the art teacher or parent drawing or fixing outlines of drawings or usage of colour or attempt to make a child's artwork 'look better' or 'look right'. This is taboo at Ladybird at all times.

For the past four and a half years, Ladybird Visual Arts has embraced the philosophy of 'unleashing the potential' of the young child to go



free in their art making, with one of the most important factors the development of an individual's unique style. Why? Because, Van Gogh does not look like Picasso does not look like Rembrandt does not look like Sekoto does not look like... Young children's ideas should be respected by teachers and parents alike, as this is his/her unique DNA as a developing visual artist.

Art Education is a basic to an individual's perception and understanding of the world in which we live. Creative learning enables students to interpret these perceptions in visual form. Art Education teaches students to respect and appreciate their own interpretations and those of other. A sequential art program develops basic skills, encourages visual awareness and is fundamental to intellectual growth and creative self-expression. A balanced and sequential art education program fosters the students' perception of both their real and imagined worlds. Through structured course work which includes knowledge of artists, art principles and educated critique the students will be exposed to cultures around the world.

The Ladybird art program enables each student to develop positive attitudes toward self, others and the environment through creative experiences. Problem solving and creative learning encourages the student to relate visual knowledge to other core subjects and to respond with originality, appreciation, flexibility and

imagination. The use and application of skills, processes and mediums encourages self-expression, creative growth, discovery, and the realization of ideas. Assessment is made on individual achievement related to each student's stage of growth and development. Commitment to this program is essential to every student's development as a well-rounded, creative and productive citizen.

The goal of arts education for young children is to develop and sustain the natural curiousness, expressiveness, and creativity that they often display. Arts education begins with a foundation that emphasizes exploration, experimentation, engagement of the senses, and discussion as paths to understanding.

The visual arts are an important part of a child's education. They can enhance cognition, perception, emotional expression, and cultural awareness and aesthetics. The visual arts play a significant role in the learning process. We want to foster the young child's natural curiosity and instill a life-long interest in the visual arts.



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students who excelled during the past week:



Drama: **YUSRA GANIE** – Primary Level: 1st year

Art: **MILLA WAI** – Prep Level: 2nd year

Beginners Music: **SARAH BENDIX** – Violin

Junior Music (Pre-Grades 1 to 2): **NO AWARD**

Senior Music (Grades 2 to 8): **CRYSTAL HAMILTON** – Violin (Gr3); Piano (Gr3); Theory of Music (Gr3); Junior Ensemble

“Mature Bugs” Music: **THEBE MOSHABESHA** – Drum kit (Gr3); Piano (Pre1); Theory of Music (Gr2); Ensembles Percussion; Encore Maluti

Little Ladybugs: **NO AWARD**

Our Patrons

The concept, ethos and business development of the Academy is mainly due to the intellectual support of its Patrons. Their support regarding all aspects of the Academy is of incalculable value.

Johan & Hessie van der Merwe ● Letitia Henning ● Hugo Roodt (Director of Music St Peters Prep School) ● Caleb Cindano (CamelEye Productions; Promenade Pictures) ● Mohlalefi Moteane ● Pieter van der Linde ● Vaughan van Zyl ● Betty Ashley-Botha (Retired Drakensberg Boys Choir) ● Sandile Mabaso ● Werner Stander (Lecturer UFS, Head of Music C&N Girls School Oranje) ● Lieve Vander Plaetse ● André & Sanet Koekemoer (Amakoekoe Guest Lodge & Conference Venue) ● Johan Esterhuizen (ATKV Applous) ● Emily Dangwa ● Lesley Jennings ● Petra Venter ● Johan van Heerden ● Rikus Coetsee

The **VISION** of the Ladybird International Arts Academy is to be a provider of tuition in music, visual art and dramatic arts for students who wish to excel in a highly competitive and rapidly changing arts industry.

The **MISSION** of the Ladybird International Arts Academy is to provide tuition through excellence in the fine arts (music, visual art and dramatic arts) in a Christian environment.

Thanks Concert Crew

Accolade go to the Concert Crew, under the direction of Galen Green and John van der Linde, for their unsurpassed contribution to all the Ladybird public concerts, especially the weekly Wednesday Soirées. They are, Rorisang Ntsasa, Peter van der Linde, Kyo Lu, Joshua Knibbs, Michael Quadrado, Andrew van der Linde and Nathan Soares. Thanks for stage duties, including coordination of the *Exuberant Concert Bell*, foyer, entrance gate, sound and lighting, during the past week.

