



JOIN US ON
facebook

Ladybird International Arts Academy • Newsletter • 2019: 7

P.O. Box 623, Ladybrand, 9745, +27 (0)51 924 5076 t/f, infoladybird@telkomsa.net

The Purple Piano



Redundant pianos make for exciting and unusual art projects. Ladybird was blessed with a likewise 'dysfunc' instrument by one of its Patrons, Pieter van der Linde. The Ladybird Visual Art department took to paint and conjured up a truly lovely conversation piece for public display in the Arts Academy's foyer. The public artwork, titled The Purple Piano, aspire to bring great joy in its second life as a statement for upcycling, to the many who will be floating by.

Thanks, dr. Pieter for initiating this fun public art project!



Celebrating SA National Book Week 2 – 6 Sep

BOOKWEEK

Music also comes
in books.
from papers
from trees
from water and soil
from the sun.

- Robert Crowther -



Ladybird Arts enjoyed a week of celebrations whereby the privilege of literacy was highlighted. The reading of books, with full cognizance of their symbolism (including music, drama and art), brings great joy and knowledge to light. The Ladybird regular Wednesday Soirée of 4 September feasted on the thrill and magic of reading books by some of the parents treating the audience to narrating stories, poems and prose in various languages often heard in and around Ladybird. The lilting of French, English, Dutch, Sesotho, Urdu (Pakistan), Afrikaans, Mandarin and Menon (Indian) and Portuguese was a balm to the ear, thoroughly heartwarming and spiritually inspiring.

The week ended with a cabaret style concert by Jannie du Toit - *Bonjour Monsieur Brel* - reciting from the works of various writers to which the Belgium song writer, Jacques Brel, has set music. The *Alive in Colour* art workshop by Nika Verster on Saturday, 7 September, was a suitable summary - in full-colour - for an awareness-week concerning the advantage and benefit of the power of symbolism captured in books.

Sincere thanks to Robert Crowther who gifted a special poem to Ladybird for the National Book Week, and Thandi Sliepen for reciting two of her poems. *The turtle dove told me*, is the title of her first award-winning poetry publication, and poem about Ladybird, *Life is a concert*. Thanks to Thandi for permission to public both the poems below.

the turtle dove told me

fly on
fearful one
the world is full of beauty
where you may find it
move on
cling not to these mountains
this high dry air
welcome change



life is a concert

tinkling sugar spoons
heavy tip toeing
black shoes
on polished wooden floors
giggling girls

life is a concert
compressing time
all the ups and downs



all the drama of life
condensed into an hour or two

a passionate woman
thumps the keys
while children count the notes
one two
one two

professional concerts
owl concerts
the old masonic lodge
lights up in ladybrand
every wednesday afternoo



and flares spectacularly
in between like solar arches
maestros who come
to play out their hearts
in small towns



audiences become family
the performers everyones
children or parents
and the departing are always
greeted



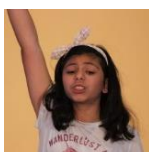
sons become stage duty
daughters blush and bow
while johan is thanked
every wednesday
for the logistics

and then there is still
choir practice
the singers trill like night jars
in my mind driving home
a symphony accompanies me



rattling over dirt roads
heavenly choirs divide the night
parting the dust
making way
for tomorrows chords

life is a concert
my mother sings once more
digging deep
into the piano's memory
an old lady remembering her fingers



telling me
to always go on playing
that the audience
is secondary
after our desire to love



life is a concert

a stage arrived
a fishbowl
a place with studios
to break through

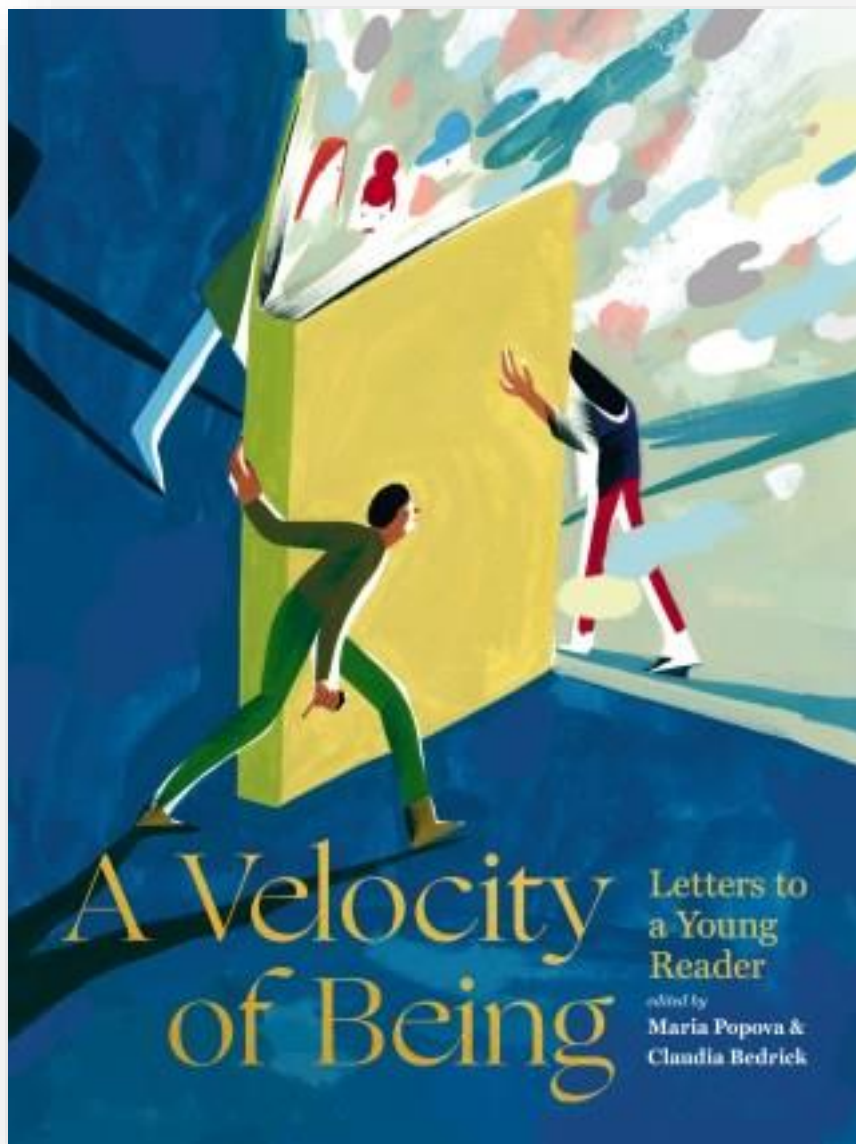
ronel you showed me
how to practice
to relax
how every room
can play a different tune



Rebecca Solnit's Lovely Letter to Children About How Books Solace, Empower, and Transform Us

Galileo considered reading our sole means of having superhuman powers. For Kafka, a book was “the axe for the frozen sea inside us”; for Anaïs Nin, the “alarm to awaken us from the slumber of almost-living”; for Gwendolyn Brooks, “meat and medicine and flame and flight and flower.” Since the invention of the printing press, books have fed the human-being’s irrepressible hunger for truth and meaning, and some of the most celebrated exemplars of our species have extolled reading as a pillar of our very humanity. Among them is Rebecca Solnit — one of the most lyrical and insightful writers of our time.

In her beautiful *memoiristic* essay about how books saved her life, Solnit observed that “the object we call a book is not the real book, but its potential, like a musical score or seed.” In childhood, when life itself is pure potential, a book becomes potential squared. Solnit speaks to this exquisitely in her contribution to ***A Velocity of Being: Letters to a Young Reader*** — a labor of love eight years in the making, comprising of 121 illustrated letters to children about why we read and how books transform us from some of the most inspiring humans in our world: artists, writers, scientists, philosophers, entrepreneurs, musicians, and adventurers whose character has been shaped by a life of reading.



Rebecca Solnit writes:

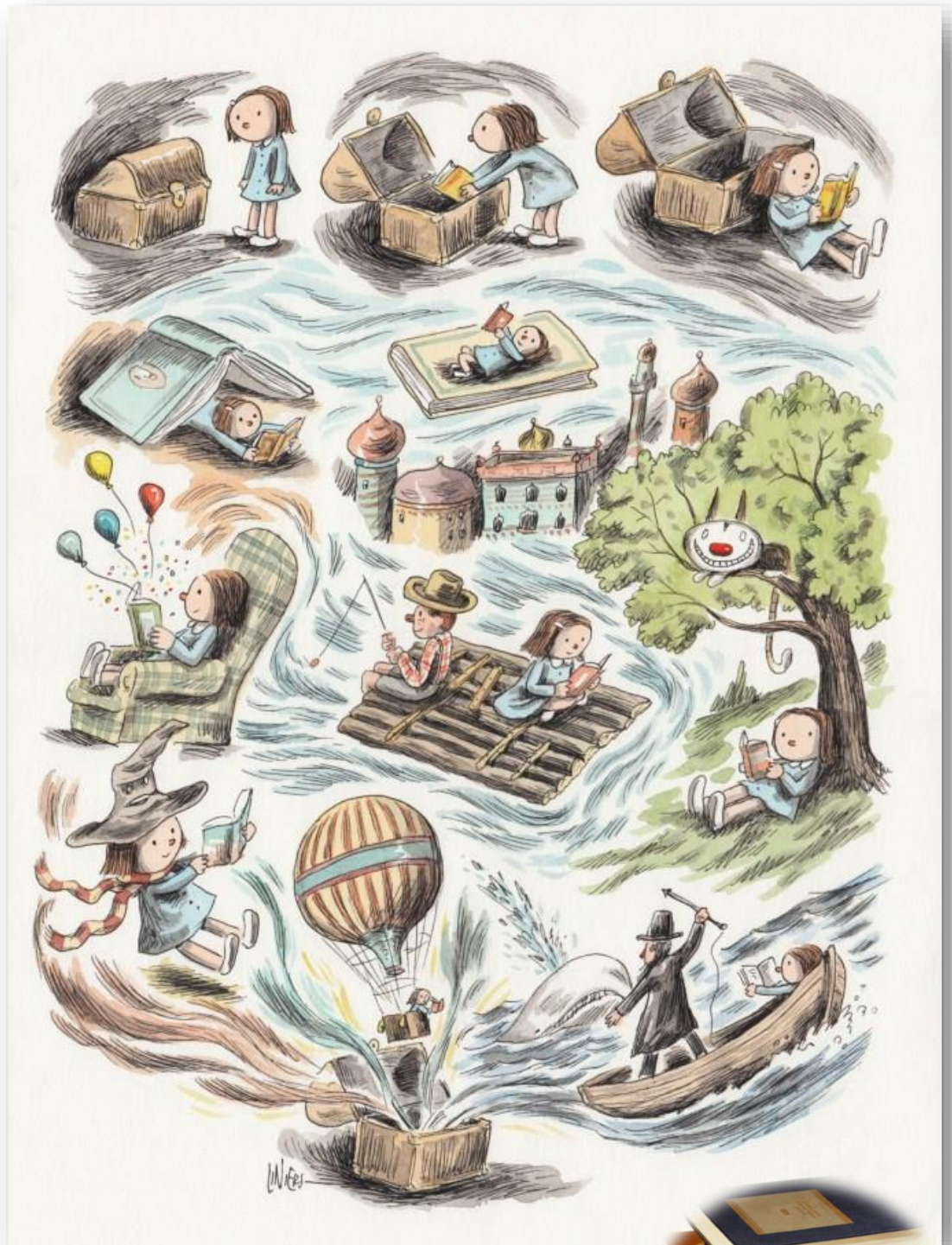
“ Dear Readers,

Nearly every book has the same architecture — cover, spine, pages — but you open them onto worlds and gifts far beyond what paper and ink are, and on the inside, they are every shape and power. Some books are toolkits you take up to fix things, from the most practical to the most mysterious, from your house to your heart, or to make things, from cakes to ships. Some books are wings. Some are horses that run away with you. Some are parties to which you are invited, full of friends who are there even when you have no friends. In some books you meet one remarkable person; in others a whole group or even a culture. Some books are medicine, bitter but clarifying. Some books are puzzles, mazes, tangles, jungles. Some long books are journeys, and at the end you are not the same person you were at the beginning. Some are handheld lights you can shine on almost anything.

The books of my childhood were bricks, not for throwing but for building. I piled the books around me for protection and withdrew inside their battlements, building a tower in which I escaped my unhappy circumstances. There I lived for many years, in love with books, taking refuge in books, learning from books a strange data-rich out-of-date version of what it means to be human. Books gave me refuge. Or I built refuge out of them, out of these books that were both bricks and magical spells, protective spells I spun around myself. They can be doorways and ships and fortresses for anyone who loves them.

And I grew up to write books, as I'd hoped, so I know that each of them is a gift a writer made for strangers, a gift I've given a few times and received so many times, every day since I was six.

Rebecca Solnit



Snippets from near and far

Lovely to hear keep in touch with **Michael Apanius** (previous strings teacher and ensembles trainer at Ladybird), who now resides and works in Baltimore City (US) as conductor and trainer of the OrchKids programme of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. OrchKids is a year-round, during and after school, music programme designed to create social change and nurture promising futures for youth in Baltimore City neighbourhoods. Under Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, OrchKids is the cornerstone of the Orchestra's community engagement efforts across the city. Founded in 2008, OrchKids now collaborates with eight schools in Baltimore City, serving over 1 300 children through music. Michael was chosen as one of the professional trainers for the Camp Encore/Coda's 70th Season Summer School in Maine during July 2019. The Saltman family provides every year to bright young musicians from all over the world since 1950, the opportunity to study classical, jazz, rock, pop, Broadway and contemporary musical styles under the guidance of professional staff, in the beautiful, inspirational surroundings of their 67-acre wooded campus on the picturesque shores of Stearns Pond in Sweden, Maine. Best wishes, Michael. We still miss you!



Flautist, **Joané Beukes** is nearing the end of her first year of B.Mus. studies at the North West University (Potchefstroom). She is the first flautist for the NWU Symphony Orchestra and has performed extensively over the last year with this orchestra in South Africa. The NWU Symphony Orchestra will be performing during the annual Aardklop arts festival over the next ten days in Potchefstroom. We wish her much joy with the forthcoming Aardklop circuit, as well as her year-end exams! Hope to you see again on the Ladybird stage before the end of the year!?



Werner Stander married the lovely Cherezane Marais, in the beautiful St. George's Anglican Cathedral on 14 September. Ladybird wishes the happy couple the very best for their future together. Richest blessings from all of us!

The Mangaung Municipality of Bloemfontein bestowed a special accolade to impresario, **Lesley Jennings** during August 2019. Her accomplishment as innovative entrepreneur for arts entertainment through her company, Gigculture, has made her one of the 'game changers' in this fast-growing music industry. Ladybird is part of the chorus of accolade, and utterly proud of this young arts business entrepreneur. Go forth, Lesley, you are making significant changes to so many people's lives in South Africa.

CHANGING THE GAME

Lesley Jennings is a natural entrepreneur and a master of innovation. Coming from a family with an entrepreneurial spirit, inspired her to not only go into business but also uplift and change the way young business owners do business. Her latest innovation, Gigculture helps businesses to conduct businesses professionally and assists with the admin of organizing some of the dopest entertainment events in the City.

MANGAUNG

Saxophonist, **Rikus Coetsee**, is taking the country by storm with his many high-profile performances in South Africa over the last year. During August he was chosen to perform as soloist at the 5th South African National Saxophone Convention held in Stellenbosch. He launched his own performance exponent, the Aureus Saxophone Quartet, at the beginning of September 2019. Rikus is currently busy with his Hons.B.Mus. at the University of Stellenbosch, lectures at the US and runs his own teaching studio where he teaches clarinet, saxophone and recorder. During the past year he has also performed at the Stellenbosch Woordfees, International Chamber Music Festival and as soloist with the KwaZulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra (Durban) under Lyk Temmingh. Rikus, you are inspiring us all! Heartfelt congratulations and may you continue to enrich your audience with your sublime performances!



Listen to Rikus performing Saxflight by Alain Crepin on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cofusJjUYMs&feature=youtu.be>



Winning a special category of the kyknet FAK Sing Harmonie competition with the Aliwal North Primary School Choir is **JD Naudé**. He participated with this school choir in the Eastern Cape regionals in Port Elizabeth on 14 September and won the category for new choirs participating. JD runs his own music school, Sempre, in Aliwal North, and sings on a professional basis. Bravo, JD, and congratulations!

In Namibia **Emily Dangwa** has firmed her market with

the the launch of her own brand, African Classical Queen, in Windhoek during August 2019. Ladybird congratulates her and wishes her the best with this new venture!

Werner, Lesley, Rikus, JD and Emily are all esteemed Ladybird Patrons and Alumni.



EMILY DANGWA
AFRICAN CLASSICAL QUEEN
Launch

Venue: Droombos Estates Date: 1 August '19
Time: 18:30 for 19:00 Price: N\$1000 per person

Book now through **EVENTS TODAY!**

Sponsors: Droombos Estates, I AM, Droombos, Music, M, M. Dandele



Ladybird Visual Art Department

ART exhibition



16 October 2019 • 11am to 6pm

Ladybird Auditorium

Ladybrand, South Africa

Admission Free

+27 (0)51 924 5076

infoladybird@telkomsa.net

Design by Belinda Pike 076 729 5326 • belindajoannepike@gmail.com

Ladybird International Arts Academy

Cherry Yuletide



Friday 1 November 2019 • 7pm

Ladybird Auditorium

Ladybrand • South Africa

R70 pp

Bookings Letitia +27 (0)51 924 5076

infoladybird@telkomsa.net



Ladybird International Arts Academy presents

STITCH & COOK

for children

Enrolment open now
+27 (0)51 924 5076
infoladybird@telkomsa.net

Design by Belinda Pike 076 729 5326 • belinda@joannepike@gmail.com



Ladybird International Arts Academy presents

STITCH & COOK

for children

Enrolment open now
+27 (0)51 924 5076
infoladybird@telkomsa.net

Ladybird provides a cosy home setting for teaching children the basics for stitching and cooking. Adding stitching and cooking to our curriculum of the arts, will provide children with practical skills that they can use for life. Kids of any age can learn stitching and cooking, however for the Ladybird curriculum the lessons are designed for the ten years and older age group.



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

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

Drama: **NTERE MATEKANE** – High Level: 2nd year

Art: **no award**

Beginners Music: **no award**

Junior Music (Pre-Grades 1 to 2): **MEGAN HAMILTON** – Piano (Gr1); Theory of Music (Gr1)

Senior Music (Grades 3 to 8): **LEHLOHONOLO SEJANE** – Drums (Gr3); Theory of Music (Gr2); Encore Maluti; Ensembles

“Mature Bugs” Music: **MOCHELA KHOHLOOA** – Bass Guitar (Gr3); Piano (PreGr1); Theory of Music (Gr2); Encore Maluti

Stitch & Cook: **no award**

Photography: **no award**

Graphic Design: **LETSOSA LETSOSA**

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 ● JD & Madelaine Naudé

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

Bravo to the Concert Crew, under the direction of Galen Green (Junior Concerts Manager) 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, Thebe Moshabesha, Andrew van der Linde and Nathan Soares. Thanks for your efficient stage duties, including coordination of the *Exuberant Concert Bell*, foyer, entrance gate, sound and lighting, during the past term.




Ladybird Photography Nika Verster
+27 (0)83 987 4428

Art Counselling

El | Inn
studio

FOR ALL AGES

60 - 90 MIN PER WEEK

NO ARTISTIC TALENT NEEDED

**HELPS DEAL WITH STRESS, ANXIETY,
DEPRESSION AND PAST TRAUMA**

**INDIVIDUAL TREATMENT PLAN
BASED ON INFORMAL ASSESSMENT**

**IMPROVES PROBLEM SOVING,
COMMUNICATION AND SELF ESTEEM.**

CONTACT NIKA

083 987 4428

nverster78@gmail.com

Unit 5 Piet Retief Str, Ladybrand 9745

Institutional Counsellor Reg No:10304 CCSA
Art Counselling 1st Year Certificate
Art Counselling 2nd Year Certificate in training
Student no AHA1726

DOOR TO HEALING!