

# Hei, mevrou, *this sounds great*

by derick van der walt



## Hei, mevrou Brown (dit gaan goed)



**Artist:** Laurika Rauch  
**Album title:** Hei, mevrou Brown (dit gaan goed)  
**Style:** Light contemporary Afrikaans  
**Rating:** \*\*\*\*  
**(Select music)**

**F**rom the original title to the final sounds on the last track, this CD sparkles with fresh ideas and new sounds but it still contains enough of the old Laurika to make this a worthwhile buy for old and new fans alike.

### No doom and gloom here

As with previous albums Rauch has succeeded in gathering a collection of songwriters who make any possible ideas of doom

### Dealing with serious matters

*Hei, mevrou Brown (dit gaan goed)* was composed by the young Marlise Scheepers, a second-year student at Potchefstroom University. Although light-hearted on the surface, the song deals with serious matters, such as the forced removals during the fifties and sixties.

Christopher Torr's contribution is, as on previous albums, a highlight. His two versions of

its sharp-witted lyrics is another highlight. One can only hope that this song will bring Van de Venter's talent to the attention of a broader South African audience.

### Koos Kombuis

Rauch again made use of the talents of Koos Kombuis who contributed *Waar ek ook al ry* and *Reispsalm* to the CD. He wrote *Waar ek ook al ry* especially for the album while *Reispsalm* was composed in

One of Rauch's favourite songwriters, André Swiegers' sombre *Hoe draai die wind dan nou* and *Hoor hoe val die reën* are proof of Jahn Beukes' exceptional talent as an arranger. His knowledge of percussion instruments was put to great use on *Hoe draai die wind dan nou* while Pops Mahomed's Kora playing and Bruce Cassidy's contribution on Electric Valve on *Hoor hoe val die reën* make this a particularly pleasing sound experience.

## Laurika's latest album sparkles with fresh ideas and new sounds

and gloom regarding Afrikaans music seem unfounded. Jahn Beukes was the arranger.

The album opens with the haunting, 'n *Sonneblom uit Bethlehem*, by Lize Beekman with a clever allusion between Bethlehem in Israel and Bethlehem in the Free State. This will undoubtedly become a Rauch classic.

the same song, *Kom laat ons sing* are an ironic, mirror image of the fleeting nature of love and life.

Alternative Afrikaans singer/songwriter, Wouter van de Venter, has for the past year appeared with Rauch on stage and their popular duet, *Beste Vriende*, is also included on the album. This humorous song with

1996. This is, however, the first time that it has been recorded. The song will have meaning for ex-pats especially.

Also not unknown to the Rauch oeuvre is Jeanette Cilliers who wrote *Vanaand se maan* for her album, *Die mense op die bus*. This time she contributed *Onthou* which was written especially for the album.

Vusi Mahlasela contributed the hopeful *Sleep tight Margaret*, while Rauch also included the well-known *Lord of the dance* on the CD. Her version has a distinctive Celtic sound.

Laurika Rauch has once again proved that she faces little competition on the Afrikaans music scene.