

# Show soothes ears, mind and soul

THE LAST time I had the privilege of listening to this majestic voice perform was when Laurika Rauch teamed up with a few musos from the northern hemisphere and our own home-grown talents to do a show entitled *Ons Kruis Paaie* in Stellenbosch about 18 months ago.

This is indeed a historic event because Rauch is in Cape Town, doing a solo performance for the first time in 21 years, proving her timelessness and indeed her prowess singing some old favourites like *Kinders Van Die Wind* and *Ek Het 'n Huisie By Die See*.

She also did some of her new material as well as André Swiegers's *Blou* and *Turn On The Light*. What strikes one about this performance is not just its colossal feel but also its simplicity in set design, costumes and lighting.

All four musicians are dressed in black and everything else on set with them is black and yet the colours were

## LURIKA SING INNIE KAAP

**Reviewer:** Rafiek Mammon

**Featuring:** Laurika Rauch, Wouter van de Venter, Leon Ecoignard, Clinton Waring

**Venue:** Artscape Opera House until tomorrow

plentiful, bouncing off the walls like a rainbow, for the colours came from the performers – their voices that gel so wonderfully and the soothing sounds emanating from their musical instruments.

And for those who believe there is no black in the rainbow, this quartet will make you think again.

The songs ranged from the mundane to the intense but always with an interesting story about ordinary folk dealing with ordinary things like love and identity. Love lost, love found and the whole spectrum in between.

The difference between this



**Laurika Rauch: timeless**

show and perhaps any other that might tackle these stories is Rauch's dignified humility when she addresses her audience, coupled with the poetic splendour of her lyrics.

The symbolism, beauty and images contained in some of the songs are truly a testament

to Rauch's talent. At the end the audience could not wait to get on their feet for what must have been the longest standing ovation I have witnessed in Cape Town. The encore, *Blouberg se Strand*, was as feverishly applauded.

Between the songs she hardly kept her audience waiting with long anecdotes about the songs she was about to perform but rather opted to share tiny tidbits, like an excerpt from one of the songs.

After all, she came to sing and that is exactly what she did – magnificently.

The musicians working alongside her (Wouter van de Venter, Leon Ecoignard and Clinton Waring) are so in tune with one another and she in turn is so in tune with them, that their years of experience as musicians working together is demonstrated at every turn.

In Afrikaans one would say this show is *strelend* (soothing) – it soothes the ears, the mind and the soul.