



Laurika Rauch

# Rauch treats audience to all her best songs

**CONCERT:** Laurika Rauch with the UP Symphony Orchestra  
**VENUE:** Aula, UP Campus  
**DATE:** Friday night

## DIANE DE BEER

IT'S NOT customary for this classical orchestra to perform light music but, consisting of mainly students, it's part of their training.

Who better to celebrate in this type of show than someone of Rauch's stature? She can sing personal hits all night long, there are so many, and that's exactly what she did.

From *Stuur Groete aan Mannetjies Roux* and *Hot Gate* to *Sonneblom Uit Bethlehem* and *My Ou Tante Koba*, Rauch – with the help of Peter McLea, her regular musical partner, who arranged the music and conducted the concert – kept it pretty much to what she knew the audience would like to hear.

But there's always time for more and when they wanted a second encore she had to repeat because of the orchestra. There's only so much you can rehearse.

That has been Rauch's success in a long career. Her audience is fiercely loyal and she has never let them down.

She has a reputation for being a perfectionist which never slips, and her audience benefits.

It's about the remarkable quality of her distinctive voice as well as finding a particular style of music and sticking to it. She has always known how to pick them, with her husband, Chris Torr, being her most prolific songwriter.

It was fun to see her perform with the full orchestra, the biggest of its kind in the country and the most prolific, and in this instance their youthful swing added impetus to the evening.

Rauch knows exactly how to introduce just that little bit more and here it was the addition of six scholars from the Transoranje School for the Deaf who "sang" with her in the most visually poetic way on the Rauch anthem *Kinders van die Wind*.

The evening was a stunning mix of performance experience and youthful exuberance. Watch out for the special one-off shows from our very own artists.