

PIETER TOERIEN presents

Laurika

RAUCH

SINGS BREL

ALHAMBRA THEATRE
MARCH 28 - APRIL 15
THEATRE ON THE BAY
MAY 16 - MAY 20

BOOK AT THEATRE & COMPUTICKET

PIETER TOERIEN presents

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RAUCH

SINGS BREL

Compiled by LAURIKA RAUCH
with PETER McLEA on the piano

ACT I

A PROGRAMME OF LAURIKA'S "GREATEST HITS"

OP BLOUBERG SE STRAND
DIE BALLADE VAN JAKOB F. DE BEER
LIZA SE KLAVIER
KINDERS VAN DIE WIND
DIE NOSTALGIE
STUUR GROETE AAN MANNETJIES ROUX
HOT GATES

"N PROGRAM VAN LAURIKA SE "GROOTSTE TREFFERS"
THOMAS CHRISTEN/UDO JÜRGENS/CHRISTOPHER TORR
CHRISTOPHER TORR
KOOS KOMBUIS
KOOS DU PLESSIS
KALLA BREMER/DON CLARKE
CHRISTOPHER TORR
CHRISTOPHER TORR

— Interval —

— Pause —

ACT II

LAURIKA RAUCH SINGS BREL

Set design: original concept by JAMES MACNAMARA DESIGNS
Original Lighting designed by HARDUS KOEKEMOER
Lighting re-designed and executed by JANNIE SWANEPOEL

LAURIKA RAUCH SINGS BREL

PROGRAMME

- TENDERNESS**
Jacques Brel / Brian Rogers
Publisher: Intersong International
Local Publisher: TUSK Music Publishing Pty (Ltd)
- YOU DON'T FORGET**
Jacques Brel / Jouannest / Helen Austin
Publisher: Intersong International
Local Publisher: TUSK Music Publishing Pty (Ltd)
- MY CHILDHOOD**
Jacques Brel / Schuman / Blau
Publisher: Pouchenel Editions Musicales
- THE DESPERATE ONES**
Jacques Brel
Publisher: Intersong International
Local Publisher: TUSK Music Publishing Pty (Ltd)
- THE OLD FOLKS**
Jacques Brel
Publisher: Intersong International
Local Publisher: TUSK Music Publishing Pty (Ltd)
- MADELEINE**
Jacques Brel
Publisher: Pouchenel Editions Musicales
- LITTLE HYPOCRITES**
Jacques Brel / Helen Austin
Publisher: Pouchenel Editions Musicales
- THE EARLY MORNING HANGERS ON**
Jacques Brel / Rauber / Brian Rogers
Local Publisher: Peermusic Pty (Ltd) – Johannesburg
- SONG WITHOUT WORDS**
Jacques Brel / Rauber / McKuen
Publisher: Little Monster Music
- I LOVED**
Jacques Brel
Publisher: Intersong International
Local Publisher: TUSK Music Publishing Pty (Ltd)
- SONG OF THE OLD LOVERS**
Jacques Brel / Jouannest / Blau / Schuman
Publisher: Pouchenel Editions Musicales
- MIJN VLAKKE LAND**
Jacques Brel / Morné Coetzer / Ernst van Altena
Publisher: Editions Eddie Barclay

"Brel is like a clown with a passionate desire for life and fun fairs, and like a poet who always carries with him the refrains of death, farewell and parting. He wrote chansons in much the way that he breathed. He grappled with an unruly, nervous, chaotic 20th century." – Eben Meiring

- 1929: Born in Brussels. During the Second World War he lived in German-occupied Belgium. At an early age he began reading classic French writers such as Baudelaire, Rimbaud, Camus and Saint-Exupéry.
- 1947: At eighteen he started working in his father's carton factory, to the consternation of his father. During these years of routine and boredom, he learnt and dreamt of love, and wrote songs. He longed for a Far West, away from small-minded people, whose shortcomings, according to him, were stupidity, selfishness and hypocrisy.
- 1952: He makes his debut in a modest cabaret in Brussels.
- 1953: The talent scout Canneti invites Brel to sing in his Paris cabaret. This is the Paris of Bécoud, Aznavour and Montand. The Parisian debut of the tall, thin Jacques Brel slips away unnoticed. He endures poverty, suffers hunger and often sleeps on the street. For years he performs for small audiences in small halls, with his sick body and his toothache, hankering for recognition. He sings of misfortune and pain, of the human comedy, and of rage against the establishment that did not want to hear him.
- 1954: An unruly and still naive Brel sings for the first time at the Olympia.
- 1957: France's Académie Charles Cros honours him for the top record of the year.
- 1960: He achieves stunning success in the supporting programme for the rock singer Johnny Halliday at the Olympia.
- 1964: The peak of his career. He sings every night of the year – at times becoming sick from exhaustion and anxiety.
- 1965: Carnegie Hall in New York. He is "in" – a rebel, anti-establishment.
- 1966: He shocks the music world by announcing that he will no longer sing in public. He promises to continue writing songs. In the following seven years he appears in some less successful films.
- 1968: He plays his favourite role, Don Quixote in *The Man of La Mancha*. He leaves for the freedom of a boat on the sea at Papeete and Tahiti, Gauquin country.
- 1977: He appears unexpectedly in Paris with a whole bundle of new chansons. Two million copies of his record, *Brel*, are sold in advance.
- 1978: 28 July: Brel goes to a clinic in Paris for cancer treatment. 9 October: In a short article it is announced that Jacques Brel, a Belgian singer, has died.

"I am no artist, just an artisan who sings to feel less alone." – Brel

"Brel is soos 'n nar met 'n hartsogtelike aptyt vir leef en kermis hou en soos 'n digter wat maar altyd die refreine van dood, vaarwel en weggaan in hom omdra. Sy chansons het hy geskryf soos hy asemgehaal het. Hy het 'n onstuimige, senuweeagtige, chaotiese 20ste eeu raakgevat." – Eben Meiring

- 1929: Gebore in Brussel. Gedurende die Tweede Wêreldoorlog woon hy in die Duits-besette België. Brel begin vroeg die klassieke Franse digters soos Baudelaire, Rimbaud, Camus en Saint-Exupéry lees.
- 1947: Op 18 jaar begin hy om in sy pa se kartonfabriek te werk, tot groot konsternasie van sy pa. Tydens dié jare van roetine en verveling, droom en leer hy van die liefde, en skryf hy liedjies. Hy hunker na 'n Far West, weg van die kleinburgerly, wie se beperkinge volgens hom, onnoselheid, selfsug en huigelry is.
- 1952: Hy maak sy debuut in 'n beskeie kabarettjie in Brussel.
- 1953: Die talentjagter Canneti nooi Brel uit om in sy Paryse kabaret te klip sing. Dit is die Parys van Bécoud, Aznavour en Montand. Die lang, maer Jacques Brel se Paryse debuut glim ongesiens verby. Hy beleef armoede, ly honger, en slaap dikwels op straat. Hy sou jare lank voor klein gehoorlijes en in klein saaltjies optree, met sy siek lyl en sy tandpyn, terwyl hy worstel vir erkenning, in 'n klim van mislukking en pyn, van die menslike komedie, van woede teen die establishment wat hom nie wil hoor nie.
- 1954: 'n Onstuimige, en nog ongeslypte Brel sing vir die eerste keer in die Olympia.
- 1957: France's Académie Charles Cros vereer hom vir die top record of the year.
- 1960: As voorryk se program vir die rock sanger Johnny Halliday, word hy 'n rasende jaer by die Olympia.
- 1964: Sy kruinjaar. Hy sing elke aand uit die 365 in die jaar. Soms word hy naer van uitputting en ang.
- 1965: Carnegie Hall in New York. Hy is "in", 'n rebel, anti-establishment.
- 1966: Hy skok die sangwêreld deur aan te kondig dat hy nie meer in die openbare sal optree nie. Hy belowe om nog liedjies te skryf. Hy speel vir die volgende sewe jaar in minder geslaagde films.
- 1968: Hy speel sy liefingsrol Don Quichot in *The Man of La Mancha*. Hy gee pad na die vryheid van 'n boot op die see by Papeete en Tahiti, Gauquin se kontrei.
- 1977: Hy daag onverwags in Parys op met en 'n hele bondel vars chansons. Twee miljoen eksemplare van sy langspeler *Brel* word opgeneem in Bussum.
- 1978: 28 Julie: Brel word opgeneem in 'n kliniek in Parys vir kankerbehandeling. 9 Oktober: In 'n kort berig word aangekondig dat Jacques Brel, 'n Belgiese sanger, oorlede is.

"Ek is g'n kunstenaar nie, net 'n vakman wat sing om minder alleen te wees." – Brel



LAURIKA RAUCH BIOGRAPHIE

Laurika Rauch has lived in Gauteng for the past twenty years. By the time she was five she had started playing the piano and become a member of "Oom Hannes Uys se Kindersangkring" in Pinelands. Although trained as an actress at Stellenbosch University, she became known as a singer through her first hit "Kinders van die Wind" in the late 70's. She was closely associated with the "new Afrikaans song" in the early 80's and has to date, received four gold albums and many awards. She appeared in Taubie Kushlick's "THE BEST OF BREL" and "ENCORE BREL". Laurika's cabaret performances include Hennie Aucamp's "MET PERMISSIE GESÉ" for the Market Theatre, "OP DIE HARTSTOG BOULEVARD" and "VAN BERLYN TOT BAPSFONTEIN", for which she received the Gallo award in 1988 for the Best Performance in a Musical. She performed in Belgium and London in 1985 and in the Netherlands at the end of 1993 with the well-known Metropole Orchestra before a crowd of thirteen thousand people.

Some of her other performances include "HOAGY" for Pieter Toerien, and "LAURIKA OP NAGSKOF" which was directed by Ilse van Hemert. She is the recipient of the 1990 - 1991 OCTAVE (OKTV) toekenning for the best Middle of the Road album for her previous release, "Stuur Groete aan Mannetjies Roux".

She made her debut as a director in July 1992, when she compiled and directed a musical programme for PACT entitled "NEEM KENNIS". She also directed Coenie de Villiers in his self-penned "FM BLUES" – which opened at the State Theatre, Pretoria in November 1992.

1994 was a *tour de force* of creative work. The production, "LAURIKA SINGS BREL", premiered in Pretoria in July and also played in Port Elizabeth and Cape Town. She performed at the Grahamstown Festival for the first time since 1987, and concluded her years' performances with a three week season of "OORBRUG", a one woman show directed by Deon Opperman, at the State Theatre.

Laurika and Peter McLea have a mature relationship that stretches back to 1984. He has arranged and produced all the albums she has made over the last decade and has had a hand in arranging and producing all the songs from the first half of this show. LAURIKA RAUCH SINGS BREL is the first time that they will be performing together in a solo production of this nature.

Laurika is married to Christopher Torr, the composer and writer of many of her well-known hits such as "Stuur Groete aan Mannetjies Roux", "Op Blouberg se Strand" and "Die Gang". In the first half of this show, you will hear another song by Torr, "Hot Gates", which has already achieved cult status in Gauteng. Laurika and Chris live in Pretoria with their two children.

March 1995

LAURIKA RAUCH TWIJBIOGRAFIE

Laurika is oorspronklik 'n Kapenaar, maar woon sedert 1995 in Gauteng. Sy het met klavierlesse begin op vyfjarige ouderdom en toe ook lid geword van "Oom Hannes Uys se Kindersangkring" in Pinelands. Hoewel opgelei as aktrise aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, het sy bekend geword vir haar sang, met die treffer "Kinders van die Wind" in die laat sewentigerjare. Sy was sterk betrokke by die oplewing van die Afrikaanse lied in die vroeë tagtigerjare en het reeds vier goue albums en verskeie toekennings ontvang. Laurika het opgetree in Taubie Kushlick se "ENCORE BREL" en "THE BEST OF BREL". Haar ondervinding in Afrikaanse kabaret dagteken terug na 1981, met Hennie Aucamp se "MET PERMISSIE GESÉ" tot by Stephan Bouwer se "OP DIE HARTSTOG BOULEVARD" en "VAN BERLYN TOT BAPSFONTEIN" waarvoor sy in 1988 die Gallo Toekenning ontvang het. Sy het in 1985 uitvoerings in België en Londen gelever en het onderskeidelik aan die einde van 1993 en begin 1994 twee baie geslaagde besoeke aan Nederland en Engeland. Sy het in Utrecht in Desember 1993 saam met die bekende Metropole-orkeste voor 13 000 mense opgetree, en in Januarie 1994 het sy twee vertonings in Bussum, buite Amsterdam gelewer.

Van haar meer bekende optredes in produksies sluit "HOAGY" vir Pieter Toerien en "LAURIKA OP NAGSKOF" waarvan Ilse van Hemert die regie waargeneem het, in. Sy het in 1991 die OKTV (OCTAVE) toekenning ontvang vir die beste "Middeweg" album van die jaar vir "Stuur Groete aan Mannetjies Roux". Haar laaste album is "Die Gang".

Sy het haar debuut as regisseuse in Julie 1992 vir TRUK gemaak met die musiekopvoering "NEEM KENNIS", wat sy self saamgestel het. Sy het ook die regie van die Staatsteaterproduksie, "FM BLUES" met Coenie de Villiers in die hoofrol waargeneem.

1994 was 'n kragtoer van kreatiewe werk. Die produksie "LAURIKA SINGS BREL" is in Pretoria, Port Elizabeth en Kaapstad opgevoer. Sy het ook in 1994 vir die eerste keer sedert 1987 by die Grahamstadfees optree, en die jaar afgesluit met die baie suksesvolle produksie "OORBRUG" by die Staatsteater in Pretoria, wat deur Deon Opperman geregissee was.

Laurika en Peter McLea het 'n musikale verhouding wat terug dagteken tot 1984. Hy het al haar albums oor die afgelope dekade verwerk en geregissee en het 'n hand gehad in die oorspronklike verwerkings en produksie van al die liedjies wat in die eerste helfte gehoor sal word. Die produksie LAURIKA SINGS BREL is die eerste geleentheid wat hulle het om saam in 'n solo vertoning op te tree.

Laurika is getroud met Christopher Torr, die skrywer van baie van haar treffers soos "Op Blouberg se Strand", "Stuur Groete aan Mannetjies Roux" en "Die Gang" en 'n hele paar besonderse nuwe liedjies wat vir die eerste keer aan die publiek bekendgestel is in "OORBRUG." Die reeds gewilde "Hot Gates", sal gehoor word.

Laurika en Chris woon in Pretoria met hulle twee kinders.