E-MAIL: arts@witness.co.za WEBSITE: www.witness.co.za

## **ARTS**

## Universally appealing music

PIETERMARITZBURG'S celebrated concert pianist, Christopher Duigan, will perform Sergei Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18 at tonight's Symphony in the City: Playing with Fire concert in the city hall, at 7.30 pm.

He is one of seven soloists performing with the KwaZulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra in the concert, presented by Parklane SuperSpar, in association with the KZNPO and Duigan's Music Revival, and conducted by the orchestra's resident conductor, Naum Rousine

Rachmaninoff enjoyed great public success early on, both as a pianist and a composer. The brooding piano prelude in Csharp minor, which he composed in 1892, at the age of 19, became the calling card of a young artist's dreams.

However, with the premiere of his First Symphony in Saint Petersburg, in 1897, under the baton of Alexander Glazunov, Rachmaninoff's confidence and momentum, if not his entire career, suddenly seemed to fizzle.

The performance must have been appalling. Rachmaninoff called it "the most agonising hour of my life", and reportedly hid in a stairwell, with his hands over his ears. Glazunov was later said to have been drunk when he walked on stage. And the opening-night review, by composer César Cui, could hardly have been worse. The symphony, Cui concluded, "would have brought ecstasy to the inhabitants of

For the next three years, Rachmaninoff wrote nothing. He continued to perform, but day after day he found that he was unable to compose. Finally, fearing that he was trapped in a serious depression, his family suggested



PHOTO: FILE

Naum Rousine.

that he consult Dr Nikolai Dahl. In January 1900, he began to see Dahl, whose main objective was to restore Rachmaninoff's appetite and improve his sleep, to curtail his drinking, to revive his morale, and to get him composing again. Through a combination of enlightened discussion and rudimentary hypnosis, Dahl succeeded in getting him to com-

pose a new piano concerto. "Although it may seem incredible," Rachmaninoff wrote many years later, "this cure helped me. New musical ideas began to stir within me — far more than I needed for my concerto."

From the soft tolling bells in the piano's opening bars that grow to a grand fortissimo, the concerto swells in waves of unfurling lyricism and drama. Through transparent moments in the second movement to the • arts@witness.co.za

languid famous tune of the third movement, which he repeats three times, the last and grandest of them inspiring countless Hollywood composers, the last word is given to the piano in an outburst of glittering bravura.

Speaking about the concerto, Duigan, said: "It has been said that performing a Rachmaninoff concerto can be a life-threatening experience — such is the magnitude of emotional, mental and physical commitment.

'The challenges are immense, but the rewards are great. I could not resist the opportunity to play this most universally appealing, yet intensely personal music once again, and in the Pietermaritzburg City Hall.

Duigan, who has also organised tonight's concert, added: "The opportunity for local musicians to play as soloist with a professional orchestra is a rare one, and vet it is a crucial part of any musician's development.

"This concert, Playing with Fire, aims not only to provide an enjoyable symphony concert, with a number of instrumental soloists and sonorities in a varied selection of music, but also to provide a group of young soloists with this experience. It is also a showcase of the wealth of talent in KZN."

Symphony in the City, which forms part of the 15th birthday celebrations of Music Revival, is supported by The Witness and CPW Printers.

Tickets range from R100 to R160 (concessions are available), and are available from Parklane Superspar at 033 342 3487. Parking is secure and patrolled in the city hall, Tatham Art Gallery and Bessie Head Library precincts.

# **Evocative and striking**

## **EXHIBITION:** Beautiful images of womanhood and spirituality

**ESTELLE SINKINS** 

TUCKED away in a charming house on the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast, Shirley McDaniel has been hard at work creating evocative paintings.

Now, for the first time, art lovers and old friends from Pietermaritzburg will be able to see her images of nurturing womanhood and spirituality first-hand at the Blue Caterpillar Gallery, at Butterflies for Africa.

McDaniel was born in Port Shepstone in 1951. The youngest of five children, she developed an interest in art from an early age. But it wasn't until the family relocated to the capital that she got the chance to develop her talent.

"My parents enrolled me at Wykeham (now The Wykeham Collegiate). At the time, the art teacher was Valerie Leigh [former director of the Tatham Art Gallery and a successful artist in her own right]. She was simply wonderful and really encouraged my love of art."

After spending a couple of years studying at the Johannesburg School of Art, Ballet, Drama and Music, McDaniel decided to devote herself to her family husband, Barry, and children, Catherine

However, she continued to nurture her creative side by making bedspreads out of recycled fabric and ornate mirror frames from a range of recycled materials, including shoes and dolls. These beautiful pieces adorn the walls of her home in Trafalgar, next to paintings from friends, and her own striking

Later, when she felt her children no longer needed her around on a full-time basis, McDaniel enrolled at the Witwatersrand Technikon, graduating, at the age of 38, with a diploma in fine arts in 1989. A year later, she and a friend, Paula Malherbe, set up the Greenway Art Studio in Greenside, Johannesburg, where they taught art to students of all ages. McDaniel continued to run the studio until the family moved to the South Coast in 1996 — where, for the past 16 years, she's had the space and time to explore and celebrate her talent. "Working here, I've been so secluded. It's given me the chance and the time to paint ... it's been so wonderful," McDaniel said.

That time and creative energy have resulted in a substantial body of work.

CLASSICAL music fans can en-

joy An Enchanted Evening of

Chamber Music by Liezl-Maret

Jacobs (piano), Boris Kerimov

(cello) and Elena Kerimova (vio-

lin) at the Howard College Thea-

tre of the University of KwaZulu-

Natal, in Durban, at 8 pm tomor-

TELEVISION







Visiting her studio on the ground floor of the house in Beatty Drive is a little like entering an Aladdin's cave of delights. The walls are covered in art and unframed canvases seem to fill every space.

McDaniel's paintings are mostly acrylic painted on cloth and the subjects predominantly women, who are alone or with children. Looking at the paintings, I'm struck by the almost iconographic nature of her work. Asked if this was a conscious decision, she says: "I love Russian icons. So, yes, some of the work does look a bit like the images you see in Russian Orthodox churches.

"But I also love carpets, especially the intricate patterns, and that comes through in the work, as does the whole concept of nurturing. Being a parent, a mother, I guess it's why I paint so many women. I think women are a link, a human connection — not just to children,

- Arts Editor.

but to friends. To me they are a symbol of connectedness.'

McDaniel's exhibition can be viewed at the Blue Caterpillar Gallery at Butterflies for Africa in Willowton Road, Pietermaritzburg, until December 15.

Butterflies for Africa is open from 9 am to 4 pm Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 am to 3.30 pm on Saturday, and 10.30 am to 3.30 pm on Sunday. Inquiries: Jeni Cramer at 033 387 1356.

## SA's top comedians are fired up

THEY won the world cup of funny in 2010, united a nation through laughter, strengthened international ties with their groundbreaking performance at the Royal Albert Hall and successfully defended their title during The Odd Shaped Ball games.

Now, the Bafunny team is has gearing up for its biggest challenge to date ... going for gold at the 2012 Olymny with its aptly named

Rings of Fire tour. Performing at the ICC in Durban on November 10 and November 11 will be Chris Forrest, Darren Maule, David Kau (11th only), David Kibuuka, Deep Fried Man, Kagiso Lediga, Stuart Taylor and Tumi Morake (10th only).

• Kibuuka has a unique brand of humour that combines wit and intellect without losing touch with his audiences.

Kibuuka also writes scripts for TV and film, including the movie, Bunny Chow, which went on to achieve critical acclaim, a local cult following, and won awards at film festivals in Los Angeles, Toronto, Melbourne and Cape Town. • Award-winning comedian Deep Fried Man's quirky, clever

blend of music and comedy has seen him establish himself as a top South African comic in just over two years. He won both the newcomer award at the inaugural Comics Choice Awards and the 2010 Parkers Comedy Showdown. He has performed at 46664 — It's No Joke, The Jozi Comedy Festival, Blacks Only, the Nando's Jozi Comedy Fest, The Heavyweight Comedy Jam and LNN Live at the Lyric Theatre, to name a few.

• Lediga's talent has seen him grace the stages of all the biggest comedy events in South Africa, including the Cape Town International Comedy Festival where he won the people's choice

award. His comedy is refreshingly intelligent and thought-provoking.

• Forrest's witty and cynical oneline humour is thought-provoking and to the point. He performed at the Edinburgh Festival in 2003 and 2005, and he

worked at Festival in 2008, and his theatre production Learner Husband played to critical acclaim is currently touring his one-man show. Mention.

live audience. He is an accomplished stage actor, and was one of the leads in the

PHOTO: SUPPLIED South Africa's best comedians will be on stage when Bafunny Bafunny bring their 'Rings of Fire' tour to the ICC in Durban.

comedy clubs in and around London, including Headliners in Chiswick, and the infamous Up the Creek in Greenwich. He was also one of the stars, as both a writer and performer, on the highly successful Pure Monate Show. He is also one of the cofounders of Starship Improvise, a comedy team that specialises

in improvised comedy. Kau stormed onto the scene with a performance at the Smirnoff Comedy Festival in 1998. and has since become a

household name with shows like

the *Heavyweight Comedy Jams* and Comedy Black Out.

Taylor's award-winning formula of a meticulous fusion of comedy and magic earned him recognition as South Africa's comedy magic champion. His first one-man show Techni-Coloured won the overall best comedy award at the National Arts

> Money's Too Tight To • Maule is the consummate former, equally comfortable in front of a microphone, a camera or a

Tim Plewman farce, Grin and Bare it. • Morake has performed on stage, on television and in films, including Jerusalema, Skin and Joburg. He has shared the stage with SA's best comics at the Nando's Comedy Festival, Heavyweights Comedy Jam,

and on the 46664 — It's No Joke line-up. As a writer and theatre director, Morake co-wrote the VUKA! award-winning short film Getting It On.

Blacks Only, King Size Comedy,

Just Because Comedy Festival

Tickets for Bafunny Bafunny's Rings of Fire tour cost from R150 to R250 at Computicket. There are discounts for parties of 10 fans or more.

No persons under the age of 16 allowed. — Arts Editor.

· For more information, visit www.bafunnybafunny.com arts@witness.co.za

## Pictures that

Midlands artist Rose van Staden will be showing her work at Midlands Arts and Crafts Society (Macs) House, 23 Haldane Road, Pietermaritzburg, from 10 am on November 10. Van Staden paints mostly in acrylics, with the human figure always featuring strongly. Her pictures usually tell a story and often contain elements from her many trips to India. There will also be a 3D exhibition by the bookbinding course students of the hand-stitched and bound books. Inquiries: 033 386 6500.

08:00: The Bold and the Beautiful (PG) (R)

**08:30:** Isidingo (PG) (R) 09:00: Generations (R) **09:30:** Muvhango (R) 10:00: 227

SABC1

10:30: Turn it Out 11:00: The Media Career Guide

12:00: Khumbul'ekhaya (R) 13:00: News 13:30: Live It 14:00: Africa Report 14:30: Matric Revision 15:30: Avatar 16:00: YO! TV Crib Notes 16:15: YO! TV What's in the Fridge 16:30: Matt Hatter Chronicles

17:00: That's So Raven

17:30: News

18:00: The Bold and the Beautiful

17:28: Journeys of Inspiration (R)

18:30: Zoned TV 19:00: Sport Preview Show 19:30: News 20:00: Generations

20:30: Room 9 (PG) 21:30: Kwanda Talk 22:00: Yizo Yizo (PG13) 23:00: FIFA Futsal World Cup 2012 03:00: Music Lounge

## SABC<sub>2</sub>

**CLASSICAL MUSIC: HAVE AN ENCHANTED EVENING** 

Four Seasons.

The programme features

Op. 97, Brahms' Piano Trio in C

minor, Op. 101 and Piazzolla's

Tickets cost R50 (R30 for

pensioners and R20 for stu-

at 031 260 3353 or e-mail

dents). To book, phone Babalwa

Beethoven's Archduke-trio,

06:00: Morning Live

08:00: Parliament: A View from the 09:00: Thabang Thabong

**09:30:** The Mummy 10:00: Takalani Sesame **10:30:** Rivoningo 11:00: Open University

12:00: Dr Phil (PG) 12:45: Judge Mathis (R) 13:30: Days of Our Lives (PG13) 14:15: Love Her to Death (PG)

**15:00:** 7de Laan (R) 15:30: Muvhango (R) 16:00: Hectic Nine-9 17:00: Dragon Ball Z Kai 17:30: News

18:00: Leihlo La Sechaba 18:27: 7de Laan 19:00: News 19:30: X-Factor US (PG) 20:30: News 21:00: Muvhango **21:30:** Speak Out 22:00: A Nation at Work (PG)

00:00: Love Her to Death (PG) (R)

23:00: Open University (R)

## SABC3

**06:00:** Expresso 08:30: The Dr Mol Show (PG) (R) 09:30: Fantasy Homes by the Sea

tomorrow.

PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Mentjies@ukzn.ac.za

FROM LEFT: Boris Kerimov

(cello), Elena Kerimova (violin)

and Liezl-Maret Jacobs (piano)

will be performing at UKZN

10:30: Generations (R) 11:00: Isidingo (PG) (R) 11:30: 7de Laan (R)

12:00: Hawaii Five-0 (PG) 13:00: News 13:27: Africa News Upadate 13:55: All My Children IX (PG) 14:45: China Beach IV (PG) (R) 15:45: Dr. Oz (PG) 16:35: 3Talk with Noeleen 17:30: Days of Our Lives (PG13)

18:30: On the Couch (PG) **19:00:** News **19:30:** Isidingo (PG) 20:00: The Ultimate Braai Master 20:59: News in 60 seconds 21:00: Special Assignment (PG13) 21:30: Two and a Half Men VII

(13SL)

22:10: Three Rivers (13)

23:10: Till Death IV (PG10) (R)

22:00: Sports Wrap

## e-tv

**06:00:** Sunrise 09:00: Rhythm City (PG13) (R) 09:30: Scandal! (PG13) (R)

Greenwall (PG10) (R)

10:00: China Faces and Places 10:30: The Young and the Restless (PG13) (R) 11:30: Screentime with Nicky

12:00: Shimatsatsa (PG10) (R) 12:30: Backstage (PG13) (R)

13:00: News 13:30: WWE Raw (PG10V) (R) **14:30:** Peppa Pig **14:35:** Cool Catz

15:00: Mona the Vampire 15:30: Jackie Chan Adventures **16:00:** Craz-e 16:40: The Young and the Restless (PG13)

17:30: It's My Biz

18:00: News 18:30: Rhythm City (PG13) 19:00: News 19:30: Scandal! (PG13) 20:00: Mad About You (PG10) Series ends. 20:30: In the Mix (13VL) Comedy. Usher Raymond, Emmanuelle Chriqui. (2005) 22:25: Mother, May I Sleep with Danger? (13V) Thriller. Tori

## M-Net

07:00: The Wild (PG) (R) 07:30: The Big Bang Theory V (13)

(13SL) (R) **08:30:** Caught on Camera (13) **09:30:** Zookeeper (PG10)

Comedy. Kevin James. (2011) 11:30: The Wild (PG) (R)

12:00: America's Got Talent VII (R) 13:00: Caught on Camera (13) (R) 14:00: The Fixer (13L) (R) 15:00: Hot in Clevelandn III (13SL)

**15:30:** The New Normal (13) (R) **16:00:** The Big Bang Theory V (13)

16:30: Two and a Half Men IX (13SL) (R) **17:00:** Suits (13) (R)

18:00: America's Got Talent VII 19:00: The Wild (PG) 19:30: Revenge (13) 20:30: Hawaii Five-0 II (13) 21:30: Fringe IV (18SNL)

**22:30:** Homeland II (16SVNL) (R) 23:30: The Mentalist IV (16V) (R) 00:30: Dexter VII (16SVNL) (R) 01:30: The Hangover: Part 2

(16VNL) Comedy. Bradley Cooper.

## SOAPIES

Akhona is angry that Nicholas kept a secret from her; Khaphela has had enough of his wife's machinations; and MJ's devastated when Caleb puts his foot down.

## (E.TV, WEEKDAYS 18:30)

Suffocate is stunned when Nkhensani comes back to town: and Shado discovers that Victoria's attitude towards rape comes from a place quite close to home.

Will a document that Charmaine finds among Neville's stuff influence Ryno's decision about his future?

A spooked Daniel wants answers, but doesn't know where to get them: and Layla makes a move, which turns Quinton even more against her.



Lategan in '7de Laan' on

### PHOTO: SUPPLIED Chris Vorster plays Ryno

Spelling, Ivan Sergei. (1996)

The Vhakwevho are desperate to find the thief and the artefacts; Rendani and Sizwe are growing closer; and Pearl decides to extend her parents' house.

## (M-NET ANALOGUE & KYKNET, 18:30)

At thinks he knows exactly what is going on with Sonia: Bea threatens Jan by using the kids; Gideon and Quinton make peace; and Rian hears the truth

### Katlego influences S'Khumbuzo to take radical and tragic action; and the shadow of Lincoln's power continues to cast itself over

Siheko Towers

Marang confronts Zintle about her relationship with Lebata, but Zintle has her own plans; and Itumeleng has a hard time bonding with his loved ones.

## tell stories