

NEWSLETTER NO. 10 – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2003

Dear members and friends,

It's that time of the year again, the Festive Season! It's also a season of introspection, sharing and goodwill though, so on this note, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you, and your loved ones, peace, health and happiness this Christmas and prosperity and success for 2004.

FoSA has accomplished a number of its goals in 2003 and others are still being completed, or are of an ongoing nature. Some of these you will read about in this newsletter. Our FoSA president, Robert Brooks, has spent a lot of time in South Africa this year. If you were wondering what Robert has been getting up to, simply look at the picture below!

1. A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT BROOKS

As many of you know, I have been in South Africa during the past months, working on the Third International Classical Music Festival (see photo), an undertaking that I initiated in 2001. Amongst the many artists who attended the Festival this year were the English Chamber Orchestra from London, legendary jazz percussionist, Louis Moholo and Swiss jazz pianist, Irene Schweizer, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, the Nqgoko Women (Xhosa over tone singers), more than 120 Venda musicians and dancers, composers Isak Roux, Jeanne Zaidel-Rudolph and Vevek Ram, and the amazing young violinist and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, Maxim Vengerov. It was a truly joyful, festive, inter-cultural event, 'uniting the power of classical, indigenous and jazz music'.



Robert with Ladysmith Black Mambazo and the English Chamber Orchestra at the Opening Gala Concert.

I am also happy to announce that our plans to bring Mzilikazi Khumalo's epic oratorio uShaka to Europe, in celebration of ten year's of democracy in South Africa, are working out well! In late spring, the Vienna Musikverein, and 11 other splendid concert venues in major European cities in 7 European countries, will be experiencing a choir of 90 singers and 8 soloists from South Africa, among others, Sibongile Khumalo, Sibongile Ngoma and Kayser Nkosi. The 12 performances of an African oratorio with outstanding South African artists accompanied by major European orchestras are guaranteed to become historical - a historical celebration of one of the greatest miracles in modern history: the first democratic elections in South Africa in 1994. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a joyful 2004!

Contact Address:

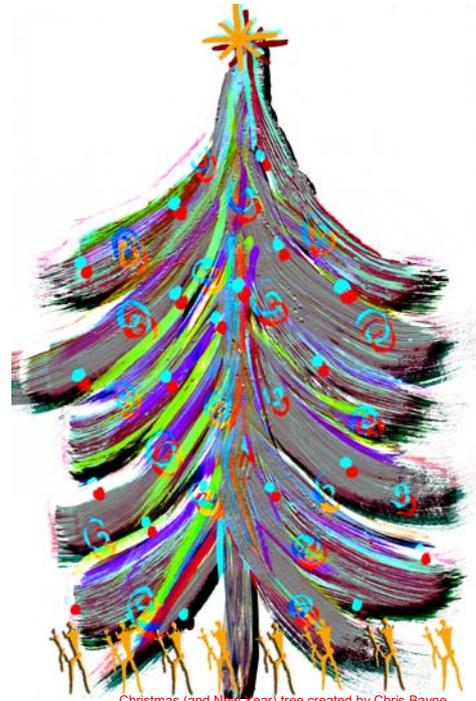
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Christmas (and New Year) tree created by Chris Bayne



2. FoSA EDUCATION AID PROJECT: AWARD OF THE FIRST SCHOLARSHIP

The first scholarship for our Education Aid Project has been awarded to Mr. Sifiso Mabaso, who was one of three applicants who had applied for a FoSA scholarship. Congratulations, Sifiso!

After considering that his grades were distinctly better and his financial position manifestly more precarious than that of the other applicants, the Scholarship Committee, (consisting of Mr. Hans Weissenboeck, Mr. August Fraueneder and Professor James Alfred Loader, who is the chairperson of the committee), recommended Sifiso Mabaso to the FoSA Board. The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation.

The scholarship, which amounts to 5,000 Rand, will be paid in two installments. The first installment will be paid to the account of the beneficiary at the institution at which he studies. The second installment will be paid only upon receipt of a satisfactory mid-year progress report, which includes first semester grades.

Sifiso Mabaso is the second of three children. His mother is a domestic worker who has had to support three children and two grandchildren because the children's father died in 1999. The family lives in makeshift housing with no electricity or running water, at Sweetwater, near Orangefarm in Gauteng. Sifiso attained the best matriculation results in his school in 2002. Consequently, he was awarded financial assistance for the first year of a Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of the Witwatersrand. This financial assistance however, was supplied for one year only. Without further financial support he will be forced to terminate his studies.

Sifiso is known as a highly motivated and very hard working student, and we wish him the very best for this upcoming study-year!

The rules for application for a FoSA Scholarship are supplied at the end of this newsletter. Should you have any questions concerning the rules for application, application forms etc., please contact our secretary, Rebecca Meister.

3. SA FILM LECTURE EVENING AND ART EXHIBITION

Rina Loader (FoSA Board) says that on this Thursday evening, 20 November, "We were not only all ears, but also all eyes!" She mentions that „ FoSA was so fortunate to be the host of Dr. Edwin Hees, in cooperation with the Department of African Studies of the University of Vienna. We are glad that he could find the time to make a visit to Vienna. Dr. Hees discussed interesting developments in South African film in recent years and he demonstrated his views with extracts from various films." Rina says further that "The development of film since 1895 is impressive. With lectures of this kind we try to contribute to film literacy in general – to be able to see better what there is to be seen. We also want to thank the Embassy of South Africa for the good wine and all the help from the staff members. The presentation of South Africa was done very professionally. We were heartily welcomed by the staff of African Studies and the depts. of English and Dutch Studies at the University of Vienna, who did a lot to advertise the event. And thanks to those who helped in the kitchen preparing the snacks. We had a lot of fun."

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4. MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR 2003 (LAST CALL)

There are still 77 friends who have not yet paid their membership fees. The vice-president of FoSA, Marie-Louise Weissenboeck, mentions that „Seeing that the Education Aid Project is financed by the Society from its own resources, which include MEMBERSHIP FEES, special projects etc., I personally wish to ask those members who have not yet paid their fees for 2003 to kindly do so. We need your help to be able to help!!” So for those who have not yet done so, please transfer the fee by 31 January 2004. We will be forced to remove you from our mailing list if we have not received your payment by that date. If you have any questions whatsoever, kindly contact, Rebecca Meister, (0676-933 9262 or reccameister@gmx.at).

5. QUESTIONNAIRE/SURVEY

A big THANK YOU to all those who have sent in their questionnaires that were supplied with the September/October issue. We have received valuable feedback and some great ideas. One of our members mentioned that she would like more information about the Board members, possibly an interview with each one (Thank you, Petra). Your wish is our command, so keep your eyes peeled in the next Newsletter, we may have a surprise in store for you!

There are still a large number of questionnaires that we are looking forward to receiving. This is your opportunity to let us know what you think and what you expect from us. So please post the completed survey to FoSA, c/o Rebecca Meister, Grosse Neugasse 31/9, 1040 Wien, or fax it to (+43-1) 21346-4848. If you no longer have the survey, you can obtain another (electronically as a pdf file) from Rebecca.

6. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Trip to Venice

We mentioned in the last Newsletter that a trip to Venice is planned for the beginning of 2004 (early spring). We plan to leave Vienna on a Friday evening with a night train, spend the Saturday in Venice, and return to Vienna on Saturday evening, arriving here Sunday morning. The train fare is €29 per person, return. Yes, you read correctly, only €29 in total, there and back. €29!! Only! Could we please have an indication, by mid-January, as to how many persons would be interested in participating. Simply send an e-mail to Wilma Kapfer (FoSA Board) at w.kapfer@unido.org or if you don't have access to e-mail, call Rebecca (her number is on the footer of this page and elsewhere in this newsletter).

Ten Years of Democracy in South Africa

Once again, if you have any ideas for events that you think we can launch in Vienna, please contact Rebecca. Every idea is helpful, no matter how small or how extravagant. (An African Christmas market, little Christmas decorations in the shape of African huts, or baubles painted with N'Debele patterns, a fluffy lion that sings Christmas tunes, a Santa sleigh pulled by Zebra instead of reindeer, are some ideas for this time, next year.) We look forward to hearing about other ideas that you may have, no matter what the season!

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Malatsi a boikhutso a a monate le
matlhongonolo a ngwaga o moswa

Maikhutso a mabose le
mahlogonolo a
ngwaga o moswa

Bophomolo bo monate
le mahlohonolo
a selemo se setjha

VROLIKE FEESTYD
EN 'N
VOORSPOEDIGE
NUWE JAAR

*Liholide zolonwabo
nonyaka omtsha empumelelo*

Dziholidi dza vhudi na
mashudu a nwaha muswa

Maholidi lamniandzi
nemnyaka lomuhle
lonempumelelo

*Happy Holidays and
a Prosperous New Year*

Amaholidi amnandi
nonyaka
omusha onempumelelo

Tiholideyi ta ntsako na
mikateko ya lembe lerintshwa

LIHOLIDI ZELITHABO
NONYAKA OMUTJHA O KARISAKO

Ein frohes
Weihnachtsfest
und
alles Gute im neuen Jahr





Rules for the FoSA Education Aid Project

1. The Austrian-South African Society “Friends of South Africa” (hereinafter the *Society*) maintains an educational aid programme under the name of The Friends of South Africa Education Fund (hereinafter the *Fund*).
2. The Fund is financed by the Society from its own resources, special projects or other sources at its disposal.
3. The purpose of the Fund is to aid needy South African students towards attaining an academic or technical qualification at a South African educational institution other than a pre-primary, primary or secondary school.
 - (a) The General Assembly of the Society appoints an Educational Committee (hereinafter the *Committee*) of three persons who are not members of the Board of the Society.¹
 - (b) The Committee considers applications and awards grants, preferably by consensus, but by majority vote if necessary.
 - (c) The Educational Committee elects its own convenor and reports to the Board of the Society (hereinafter the *Board*).
 - (d) The Educational Committee considers reports by recipients and makes recommendations to the Board.
4. Grants are made irrespective of race, gender, creed, ethnic origin or sexual orientation.
5. Eligible are South African nationals who wish to register at a South African university, technikon, technical college or other educational institution, in the discretion of the Committee providing vocational training.
6. Apart from South African citizenship, two basic criteria apply, notably financial need and merit in the field of study.
7. Financial need: An applicant should satisfy the Committee regarding his/her financial need by supplying proof in the form of
 - (a) a personal statement,
 - (b) a declaration of the income of his/her parents by the relevant employers,
 - (c) a confirmation of financial need by an authority of the institution where the applicant is to study.
8. Merit: An applicant should supply
 - (a) documentary proof of his/her results of the last year of study at school or another institution,
 - (b) a recommendation by two referees, preferably from the institution intended by §8 (a) and from the prospective institution where the study is to be undertaken,
 - (c) a fully completed application form obtainable from the Society.
9. Both criteria intended in §§7 and 8 carry equal weight, but where an applicant with clear potential for successful study is appreciably in greater need of funding than an applicant with higher academic merit, the former applicant will be preferred.

¹ For 2004 this function may be performed by the Board.

10. Where male and female applicants are judged equally suitable in all respects, the female candidate will be preferred.
11. A study grant is annually made for one year with the possibility of extension to not more than three years. In the case of an application for extension of the grant, preference will be given to such a candidate, provided that the results of the previous year are judged positively by the Committee. If the qualification in question is obtained at the end of the second year, no grant will be made for a third year.
12. The grant is paid in South African Rand in two instalments of 50% each at the beginning and in the middle of the year of study. The second instalment will only be paid on receipt of a declaration by an authority of the relevant educational institution that the candidate can successfully complete the second half.
13. Monies from the grant will normally be paid to the credit of the account of the beneficiary at the institution where he/she studies. Only after tuition fees have been fully paid may any remainder of the grant be paid in cash to the holder.
14. Candidates shall undertake to provide the Committee with a report and an official substantiation of results from the relevant institution and provide such documentation within six weeks from the completion of the study. It remains in the discretion of the Committee to accept for this purpose a report of unsuccessful study.
15. The deadline for all applications is the first day of November preceding the year in which the intended study is to be undertaken.
16. The Society establishes the sum of the grant or grants annually and may, either by itself or through its Committee, discontinue or suspend the programme or opt to make no award in a particular year.



TÜR & WEIN

...your choice of more than 250 great South African wines!

Allesverloren – Annandale – Astonvale – Blaauwklippen - Broken Stone - Fleur du Cap - Groot Constantia – Kanonkop – Kanu - Klein Constantia – Kloovenburg - La Motte - Le Bonheur - Le Riche – Middlelei – Moreson - Neil Ellis – Springfield – Stellenryck –Thelema – Uitkyk – Vergelegen – Zandvliet – Sonop - Bouchard Finlayson – Muratie – Veenwouden - L’Ormarins – Slaley – Brampton - Cape Bay – Louisvale – Villiera – Rustenberg – Buitenverwachting – Kaapzicht - Wide River - Hamilton Russel - Groote Post – Inglewood.....and many,many more.

TÜR & WEIN

...your discount...benefit from your 10% discount on wines for all FOSA Members!



Kloovenburg
Shiraz 01
€ 23,25



Zandvliet
Shiraz 2000
€ 20.-



Carneby Liggle
Old Bush Wines 00
€ 11,40



Astonvale
Ruby Cabernet 01
€ 8,23



Le Riche
Cuveé 01
€ 17,80



Kleine Zalze
Chenin Blanc 01
€ 6,10



Castle Lager
FOSA price € 1,50
regular price € 1,90



Springbok Rugby
FOSA price € 75.-
takes approx. 10 days for delivery



Savanna Dry Cider
FOSA price € 1,60
regular price € 2,-



Zandvliet
Chardonnay 02
€ 17,00

TÜR & WEIN

Vinothek for South African wines

A-1100 Wien, Raaber Bahn Gasse 20 / U1 Keplerplatz

Shophours: Mo – Fr / 14:00 – 18:00, Sa 09:00 – 12:00

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Be our guests

pop in for a glass of great South African wine, every
Friday and Saturday in December

all offers subject to availability – prices can change without prior notice