



Noluvuyiso Mpofu (Soprano)

Hailing from Port Elizabeth, Noluvuyiso is in her second year towards a UCT Post Graduate Diploma, Opera, and part of CTO's Studio Program since January 2015. Building on many previous awards, 2015 achievements include 3rd place in Placido Domingo's Operalia in London; International Belvedere Singing Competition Finalist; 1st Prize at the national ATKV Muziqanto singing competition, plus her international debut as Clara in CTO's Porgy and Bess at Teatro Real in Madrid.



Johannes Slabbert (Baritone)

A UCT Opera graduate, Johannes is currently studying towards his MMus degree at Stellenbosch University. With a wide repertoire, many prestigious awards and bursaries to his credit, he recently appeared in the Johann Strauss New Year's concert in Helsinki, Finland. 2015 CTO performances include major roles in *La Traviata* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*. Johannes recently returned from the Tricycle Theatre in London where he performed the title role in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.



Lukhanyo Moyake (Tenor)

Currently a CTO Staff Soloist, Lukhanyo graduated in KZN, then obtained his Post Graduate Diploma, Opera at UCT, winning many awards and building an impressive repertoire. 2015 has been prodigious with a solo performance at CTO/CTPO Duet Gala; principal roles in CTO's La traviata and The Merry Widow of Malagawi; a finalist in the International Belvedere Singing Competition in Amsterdam, and will take part in the Neue Stimmen competition in Guetersloh in October.



Esté Visser (Pianist)

Awarded a BMus from Stellenbosch University and the recipient of many prestigious prizes, Esté excels in both piano and violin. A very accomplished soloist, orchestra member, chamber musician and accompanist, her career has spanned orchestra tours in Germany, master classes and solo performances in Portugal. A permanent violinist in the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra 2005-6, Esté has been a CTO rehearsal pianist since 2009. She is also a member of the band Tribal Echo.

From a Galaxy of Stars Program

GIUSEPPE VERDI

Rigoletto – Ella mi fu rapita...Parmi veder le lagrime Lukhanyo Moyake

ROSSINI

Il barbiere di Siviglia – *Dunque io son...tu non m'inganni?*Johannes Slabbert, Noluvuyiso Mpofu

JULES MASSENET Hérodiade - Vision Fugitive Johannes Slabbert

GAETANO DONIZETTI

Linda di Chamounix - Ah! tardai troppo...O luce di quest'anima Noluvuyiso Mpofu

GIUSEPPE VERDI

La Traviata – Oh qual pallor...Un dì felice Noluvuyiso Mpofu, Lukhanyo Moyake

GIUSEPPE VERDI

La Traviata - *Di Provenza il mar, il suol* Johannes Slabbert

GIUSEPPE VERDI

La Traviata - È strano!...Ah, fors'e lui...Follie...Sempre libera Noluvuyiso Mpofu, Lukhanyo Moyake



Cape Town Opera.....
taking our singers to infinity and beyond!

Cape Town Opera (CTO), Africa's premier opera company, is home to thirty-four young singers who practice, refine and share the art of classical singing on stages varying from rural community venues to the most prestigious opera houses in the world. In the absence of support from national government, CTO has adopted an innovative entrepreneurial business model, receiving consistent revenue from international tours which form a significant portion of the company's annual income. This means that CTO's international reputation has been firmly established over the last decade.

The unprecedented achievements of a new generation of South African singers in the demanding international opera arena, is no longer a secret. Equally significant is the fact that the majority of them are alumni of the UCT SACM Opera School, one of CTO's long-term, valued training and production partners. Acclaimed Cape Town trained singers now regularly grace the stages of La Scala, The Met and other eminent performance venues across the globe, e.g. Pretty Yende, Sunnyboy Dladla and Musa Ngungwana.

The prestigious International Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition, with auditions in 63 cities worldwide, has launched many singing careers over thirty-four years and will come to Cape Town in 2016. Pretty Yende was the first person ever to scoop up all the prizes in 2009; 2013 and 2014 saw Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi and Siya Ntlale respectively in second place and in 2015 Levy Sekgapane won the first prize and three additional awards in Amsterdam. Four of the fifteen finalists at the 2015 Belvedere Competition, were South Africans: Levy Sekgapane (UCT), Noluvuyiso Mpofu (CTO Studio/UCT), Lukhanyo Moyake (CTO) and Caroline Modiba (former CTO Studio member).

Thanks!

Cape Town Opera would like to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to an Erinvale golfing member, Ton Houben, for arranging accommodation for the 2015 Belvedere Competitors from South Africa, through the Amsterdam Rotary Club. The singers were warmly welcomed and generously hosted, greatly diminishing the prohibitive cost of their respective trips. The continued success of CTO and the singers we employ, is impossible without the assistance, goodwill and support of individuals who love the performing arts and artists.