



Tdrinda Woods

Tdrinda started her music studies at the age of four, with piano. Over the years, she participated in many performances, including stage (solo, duets, groups and symphonic orchestras as student and later as a professional musician) as well as eisteddfods in percussion, such as the Philip Moore National Music Competition as soloist on the marimba, at other Eisteddfods, she performed on piano and violin.

Tdrinda completed her piano studies and holds a Performance Dip. in Symphonic Percussion. (ABRSM-U.K.) She also partook in Violin exams with Trinity College London and later the University of West London (LCM).

In addition to the above, she successfully completed an Events Management Course (R.S.A.) and achieved the Travel and Tourism Management and Travel & Tourism Practice Dip. qualification with UNISA (R.S.A.) She also holds a Child Psychology CEU certificate (U.S.A.) and completed the Advanced Child Psychology course in Education. (R.S.A.) Later On, Tdrinda finalised several Internationally Accredited Teaching Courses and holds a Foundation Degree in English teaching as well. (U.K.)

Tdrinda is an independent Music Teacher since 2009, teaching privately under the banner of MoTHS which is registered at SASMT/IMEB/YAMAHA, as well as at several schools in the Gauteng province, South Africa. She holds a Diploma in Teaching Skills for Educators as well as a certificate in Working with Students with Special Educational Needs. On a regular basis, she attends teaching workshops/conferences to stay informed about new teaching developments and methodologies.

She studied through Harvard University and completed a course on Family Engagement in Education. Tdrinda is the Events Manager and Coordinator of the West Rand Music Foundation, she was also a fellow founder and Musical Director of the Western Ensemble®. She regularly performs at functions/church ceremonies for morning and evening services on an ad hoc basis throughout a year, especially for Easter/Christmas/Special events and functions. She enjoys arranging recordings for publication/publicity material and videos, in-between planned performances, which are presented on social media platforms.

Tdrinda has worked with well-known musicians as a performing artist, to mention a few; Mr. Pienaar Fourie with the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra as soloist on marimba, Mr. Richard Cock, Dr. Rexleigh Bunyard as percussionist in her Opera named “Lost in Bluebell Wood”, a Christmas production with Pretoria Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Gerben Grooten, Mr. Sergio Zampolli, Ms Ammarillie Ackermann and Mr. Carel Henn with the Rand Symphony Orchestra as percussionist and occasional violinist, as well as performing with her mentor and music teacher Ms. Magdalena de Vries in their combined project, !Marimba Magic! She performed as Symphonic Percussionist in the JSO, PSO, RSO, OFS and the JPO, where some of these performances were recorded/broadcast/streamed on live TV.

Together with Vivienne Janse van Rensburg, she placed concerts on stage named “Harp and Marimba MuSiCaL mOmEnTs”, which was a unique combination of musical sounds. (Pretoria and Johannesburg). Major performances were as accompanist to choirs on Marimba at the KykNet “Sing in Harmonie” Choir Finals for TV recordings at Silverstar Casino, Krugersdorp which were broadcast on KykNet TV. She performed with Mr. Christo Erasmus (organ) in the “Auto & General Theatre on the Square” in Sandton as well as in Roodepoort with Ms. Althea Steynberg (flute/recorder) in a joint event

to raise funds for the Church Organ of the NG Church, Roodepoort. Tdrinda performed with the resident organist of the NG Church Roodepoort and various other musicians, namely Mr. Clint Lecsh, who performed as a guest vocal artist, and Mrs. Elsa Strating for “PER L’ORGANO”. She performed in the Pierneef Theatre (Pretoria) and Auto & General Theatre on the Square (Sandton) with Clint Lesch and Elsa Strating in Live Recording performances namely “Marimba Unplugged” & “Christmas Marimba” from which the CD “Timeless Memories®” was born. The CD was produced by JP Studio’s. It is available on order via E-Mail and online via various platforms. (iTunes, Google Music, etc.)

Tdrinda enjoys performing modern and unknown works. She regularly joins hands with upcoming composers. The performance ‘The Magical Marimba Concert’, staged in Sandton and Pretoria, with the South African composer Mr. Frank van Doorene (composer/vocal), Ms. Elma Nieuwenhuizen (piano) and Mr. Niel Robbertse (guitar), where newly composed items were performed which touched on some issues faced in the modern world, such as the poaching problem, mental health issues and of course matters of the heart as well as classic -, romantic – baroque music, theme songs and Afrikaans music.

In September 2019 she, performed with a close friend and music colleague, from School Youth Orchestra times, Ms. Allison Gilbert (clarinet) and the resident organist in Kuilsriver, Western Cape in a concert, hosted to raise funds for the church organ. Further, both Tdrinda and Allison, joined hands to perform in a concert hosted to raise funds for the Lighthouse Children’s Home at the Yamaha Theatre, Sandton, South Africa, “A Musical Journey of Love & Care” on the 12th of October 2019, where selected students of MoTHS also received the opportunity to perform on stage.

Tdrinda full heartedly knows the challenges pupils and their teachers/parents face and therefore completed a certificate course with the University of Derby; Understanding Autism, Asperger’ s & ADHD, in order to assist and provide support to these students. Additionally, to understand pupils, especially pre – and preparatory school students, she completed certificate courses in Child Development from birth to six years old with the SEED Institute PTY LTD, she also studied Music Therapy and with this qualification she helps students and parents, where she often works in conjunction with a psychologist. (certified CPD Music Therapy course)

In March 2020, Tdrinda won two Akademia Music Awards for Best Classical Live Performance Video and Best Ambient / Instrumental Song. In 2021, Tdrinda received Akademia Music Nominations for 2020 as Artist Of The Year Award for Instrumentalists and the 2021, Rising Star Award, of which she won the Rising Star Award in April 2021.

She released a single dedicated to her grandmothers in May 2020. The CD “Around the World” was a long-term project and finalised end of August 2020. “Around the World” was recorded acoustically and arranged/produced by herself. It consists of traditional/popular music of different countries. It is available on order via E-Mail and online via various platforms. (iTunes, Google Music, etc.)

In December 2020, Tdrinda completed her studies with University of West London (LCM) wherein she achieved a 100% pass for her LLCM (TD) Qualification.

She is currently busy with a few projects and furthering her studies with LCM as well.

In her spare time, she spends time with her family, close friends and enjoys playing with her dogs.