

Claire Röntsch

Saxophonist, Composer & Educator



clairerontschmusic.wixsite.com/home

clairerontschmusic@gmail.com | 073 390 0869

Teaching Experience

Lecturer

University of the Free State (Odeion School of Music)

2023 - present

- Co-conductor and arranger for the Free State Youth Wind Ensemble

Lecturer

University of Cape Town (South African College of Music)

2020 - 2022

- Courses: Jazz Styles & Analysis, Jazz Pedagogy, Jazz Ensemble, Jazz History II, Jazz Improvisation III, Jazz Saxophone

Lecturer

Stellenbosch University

2021 - 2022

- Taught Orchestration and Arrangement at the Youngsfield Army Base (satellite campus of Stellenbosch University), preparing students for their Music Direction Diplomas through ABRSM

Saxophone Teacher and Junior Jazz Band Conductor

St Cyprians School for Girls (Preparatory School and High School)

2019 - 2022

Jazz Saxophone Teacher

Westerford High School

2018 - 2022

Saxophone Teacher and Junior Wind Band Conductor

Beau Soleil Music Centre

2016 - 2022

Claire Röntsch

Saxophonist, Composer & Educator

Teaching Experience [cont.]

Saxophone Teacher, Saxophone Ensemble Conductor and Jazz Band Conductor

Rustenberg Girls High School

2016 - 2018

Head of Wind Department, Band Instructor and Head of Little Wing Classes (ages four and five)

School of Rock (Claremont)

2015 - 2017

Saxophone Teacher and Jazz Band Conductor

Springfield Convent for Girls

2015 - 2018

Saxophone Teacher and Music Theory Teacher

Oakhurst Girls Primary School

2012 - 2016

Qualifications

Master of Music (MMus)

University of Cape Town

Graduated 2022

- Jazz Composition and Arrangement (Portfolio)
- Minor Dissertation

Bachelor of Music (BMus)

University of Cape Town

Graduated 2014 with distinction

- Dean's Merit List (2011 - 2014)

Claire Röntsch

Saxophonist, Composer & Educator

Skills

- Arrangement, orchestration and composition
- Transcription
- Score preparation and editing
- Musical direction and conducting
- Session musician
- Concert and event co-ordination
- Social media management
- Photography and videography

Awards and Scholarships

- Levedo Foundation Grant (2020 - 2021)
- EE Coutts Memorial Scholarship (2016 - 2018)
- Winner of the Fine Music Radio Jazz Performance Competition (2015)
- SAMRO Undergraduate Studies Bursary (2012 - 2014)
- Trinity Guildhall College of London Silver Medal for the highest woodwind practical examination mark in the Western Cape, for my Western Classical Saxophone Grade 8 examination (2009)

Conference Presentations

Claire de Kock (Röntsch), Recontextualising Mseleku: Exploring big band arranging techniques in South African Jazz" at "The Twelfth Annual Conference for the South African Society for Research in Music", University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, Durban, South Africa, 29 August - 1 September 2018.

Claire Röntsch

Saxophonist, Composer & Educator

Notable Performances

2023 - Kirstenbosch Summer Sunset Concerts, The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist & Arranger

2022 - Cape Town Jazzathon, The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist

2022 - RE/MAX Annual Awards, The Swing Collective, Saxophonist & Band Manager

2022 - Cape Talk Moonstruck, The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist

2022 - Open Book Festival, Saxophonist

2021 - South African Saxophone Symposium with Khaya Mahlangu, Saxophonist & Arranger

2021 - Cape Town Jazzathon, The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist

2020 - RMB Starlight Classics, The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist & Arranger

2020 - National Arts Festival, Lana Crowster, Saxophonist

2019 - Cape Town International Jazz Festival, The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist & Arranger

2019 - Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees, The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist & Arranger

2019 - Cape Town Jazzathon, The Language of Being, Saxophonist

2018 - Jazz Masters Concert Series (Artscape Theatre), The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist, Soloist & Arranger

2018 - The Grand White Party, The Swing Collective, Saxophonist & Band Manager

2018 - Espresso Morning Show, The Lady Day Big Band, Lead Saxophonist

2018 - Endless Daze Festival, Msaki, Saxophonist

Claire Röntsch

Saxophonist, Composer & Educator

Notable Performances [cont.]

2016 - Cape Town International Jazz Festival, Lana Crowster, Saxophonist

2016 - RMB Starlight Classics, Cape Philharmonic Orchestra with Hugh Masekela, Saxophonist

2016 - Ready to Run Stakes (Kenilworth Racecourse), The Swing Collective, Saxophonist & Band Manager

2016 - Espresso Morning Show, Lana Crowster, Saxophonist

2016 - Woordfees, Johnny Cooper Big Band, Saxophonist

2016 - Cape Town Fringe Festival, Msaki, Saxophonist

2016 - Up the Creek Music Festival, Jon Savage, Saxophonist

2016 - Smoking Dragon Music Festival, The Rudimentals, Saxophonist

2015 to 2016 - Cape Town Tour, Claire de Kock Quartet, Band Leader, Saxophonist, Arranger & Composer

2015 - New Skool Orchestra Gauteng Tour, Saxophonist

2015 - Wacky Wine Festival, The Swingsetters, Saxophonist & Band Manager

2015 - George Anderson (of Shakatak) Cape Town Tour, Saxophonist

2015 - Rocking the Daisies Music Festival, The Swingsetters, Saxophonist & Band Manager

2014 - European Tour, MIAGI Youth Orchestra, Lead Saxophonist

2014 - Espresso Morning Show, The Swingsetters, Saxophonist

2014 to 2020 - Mike Campbell Big Band, Saxophonist and Band Manager

Claire Röntsch

Saxophonist, Composer & Educator

Notable Performances [cont.]

2014 to 2022 - Cape Town Big Band Baxter Festival, UCT Alumni Big Band, Saxophonist

2013 - Tour of France, Little Giants and Big Time (with Marcus Wyatt & George Werner), Saxophonist

2013 - Johannesburg Festival Orchestra, Saxophonist

2013 - New Skool Orchestra Gauteng Tour, Saxophonist

2012 - European Tour, MIAGI Youth Orchestra, Saxophonist

2011 to 2014 - UCT Big Band, Lead Saxophonist and Baritone Saxophonist

Arrangements/Compositions/Orchestrations (selected)

2023 - commissioned by the *University of the Free State*: "Pennywhistle" by Mango Groove, orchestrated for orchestra and wind ensemble

2023 - commissioned by *The Lady Day Big Band*: "Proud Mary" by Tina Turner, arranged for big band

2023 - various transcription work for *Wawee Music*

2022 - commissioned by *St Cyprians School*: "Careless Whisper" by George Michael, arranged for big band

2022 - commissioned by *The Lady Day Big Band*: "I'm Every Woman" by Whitney Houston, arranged for jazz tentet

2021 - commissioned by the *SA Saxophone Symposium*: "A Song for Bra Des Tutu" by Winston Mankunku Ngozi, arranged for saxophone quartet and rhythm section

Claire Röntsch

Saxophonist, Composer & Educator

Arrangements/Compositions/Orchestrations (selected) [cont.]

2020 - various orchestrations, transcriptions, score preparation, and score editing for *Thatch Music Company*

2019 - commissioned by *Msaki*: orchestrations of her songs "At Stake", "Gibel'inkwenkwezi" and "Statues" for string orchestra

2019 - my own composition for big band: "Nelipot", commissioned by the *South African Society for Research in Music*

2019 - my own composition for saxophone quartet and rhythm section: "Twisted", commissioned by *The Platform*

2018 - commissioned by *Stellenbosch University* for their jazz band: big band arrangements of "Vukani" by Bheki Mseleku (with Gloria Bosman), "Footprints" and "Nica's Dream"

2018 - commissioned by *The Lady Day Big Band*: "Respect" by Otis Redding for big band and vocals

2015 - various transcriptions and score preparation work for *Shy Music*

Notable Recordings

2022 - saxophones for *Platinumb Heart* by Msaki, recorded at Sound & Motion (won the SAMA for Best Adult Contemporary Album)

2022 - saxophones for *The Runaway EP* by Lana Crowster, recorded at Milestone

2021 - "in the sun" by Clare Loveday for *Herstory*

2019 - lead saxophonist for *The Lady Day Big Band*, recorded at Milestone

2018 - saxophones for *Subconscious* by Lana Crowster, recorded at Popsicle Studios

Claire Röntsch

Saxophonist, Composer & Educator

Notable Recordings [cont.]

2017 - alto saxophone for *Girls part two EP* by Jackie Queens, recorded at Red Bull Studios

2016 - baritone saxophone on backing tracks for live performances for Freshlyground

2016 - baritone saxophone for *Josh Hawks Band*, recorded at Digital Forest Studio

2014 - baritone saxophone for *Citizen Whosane*, recorded at Cape Audio College

2013 - alto saxophone for the *UCT Big Band*

Reference

Professor Amanda Tiffin
Head of Jazz Studies
South African College of Music
University of Cape Town
amanda.tiffin@uct.ac.za