

HOMELANDS

ARTVARK & NTJAM ROSIE

- THIS PROGRAMME -

Homelands is a cooperation of Artvark Saxophone Quartet and the Cameroonian/Dutch singer Ntjam Rosie. At the beginning of 2016 this tour started with 23 performances in popular venues like Lantaren Venster Rotterdam, Bimhuis Amsterdam, Tivoli/Vredenburg Utrecht and in many theatres throughout the Netherlands. In 2017 the programme will go on a second tour by popular request, amongst others in De Kleine Komedie Amsterdam and De Doelen Rotterdam.

The music is specifically written for this programme by all 5 musicians and is inspired both by the traditional music from Ntjam's home country Cameroon and by more recent music from for instance Manu Dibango and Richard Bona and music from West and South Africa. Besides, the Afro-European blend of Ntjam's current soul, jazz, gospel and world music has been a source of inspiration too.

Artvark continues the same path they took a few years ago, be it more radical than ever. They're looking for alternative ways of playing the sax and the way it sounds, using unorthodox sounds as the basis of a composition. Besides the whole range of 'ordinary' acoustic sounds, these four gentlemen dived into the world of electronics and effects to create the desired grooves of this programme.

They are supported and complemented by sound engineer Rory van der Oest, who provides this role also for the bands 'De Jeugd van Tegenwoordig' and 'Kytman' and theatre Paradiso in Amsterdam. Lighting expert Chico Wadilie and visual artist Sven Meijers complete the picture with their live creations of art, images and light. Resulting in a theatre show in which different worlds come together in a unique way.





Artvark Saxophone Quartet
Picture: Eric van Nieuwland

Ntjam's role is diverse. She is, so to speak, the fifth instrument of the quartet, adds spoken word, sings of course -whether or not accompanied-, does vocal percussion, forms duos or trios with the saxes, accompanies the quartet, occasionally on her guitar. She performs texts in English and French, one of the official national languages of Cameroon, and sings in Bulu, her mother tongue.

ARTVARK SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Four saxophonists, among the best of the Netherlands, that's Artvark. They played across the world at major Jazz

festivals and venues from Prague to Egypt and from Ireland to South Africa. No boring chairs or music stands, no rigid jazz purists. Artvark meanders through musical traditions from jazz to blues and everything in between or outside of that.

NTJAM ROSIE

With her strong characteristic voice, endearing performances and charming appearance on radio and television, Ntjam Rosie is a rising star in jazz and soul music. Her latest album 'The One' contains a wide range of styles and intensely beautiful songs. For this album Ntjam collaborated with famous musicians like Eric Vloeimans, Martin Fondse, Ronald Snijders, Pink Oculus and Lamin Kuyateh.

HOMELANDS

This programme brings together the best of two musical worlds and promises to offer an entertaining performance. It will be a unique and one-time experience to see this special cooperation live in the theatres. Besides a second tour in the Netherlands in 2017, Homelands will go on tour in Germany and Belgium.

QUOTES

"Artvark combines stunning precise play with groove, guts and strong solos, well-thought-out catchy pieces, played with passion. Totally hip."

★★★★ De Volkskrant

"Rosie's voice dances enchantingly across the scores in English, French and Bulu - a language from Cameroon - with fire, freedom and control."

★★★★ NRC.next



Ntjam Rosie
Picture: Eric van Nieuwland

