

## **PROF. ALETHEA DE VILLIERS: Short CV**

I am a Professor of Music and the former Head of Department (HoD) of Music and Performing Arts at Nelson Mandela University. I have 30 DHET accredited publications and 35 years' experience in the education industry, with 14 years as a university academic. I have successfully supervised 5 doctoral and 15 masters candidates.

I am actively engaged in my Faculty, previously being the acting chair for both the Teaching and Learning Committee and the Sub-ethics committee. Currently I serve on the Faculty Postgraduate Study Committee (FPGSC) and the Faculty Research and Innovation Committee (FRIC). In the broader academic community, I was a member of the Presidential Committee of the International Society for Music Education (ISME). I am an editor and reviewer for several international and national journals and serve on the editorial board of the International Journal for Music Education. I was a visiting professor for the Pratt Institute, New York.

As HoD my vision was to ensure the long-term sustainability of my department and I led the evolution from being a *home of the orchestra* to a *home of music*; introduced steel pans and marimbas; raised the academic stature of contemporary voice; reconstructed the BMus; designed a new qualification in BA Musical Theatre; and started a chamber choir. These measures increased access and facilitated transformation, whilst sustaining international benchmarks. I created opportunities, such as the Music in Diversity Colloquium and New Music Indaba, enabling staff development, increasing research and creative output, leading to promotions and awards.

I hosted the first post-doc in the department, Benjamin Izu (Nigeria); hosted international scholars Prof. Alexandra Kertz-Welzel (Germany), Prof. Franz Comploi (Italy), Kai Martin (Germany), and Rev. Dr. June Boyce-Tillman (UK). Other international collaborations include staging *Wading Home*, and *South Pacific* with the Southern Methodist University in Texas (USA). I have completed professional development courses in leadership, obtained grant funding, and have experience in postgraduate supervision. I was the Regional Vice-President of the South African Society of Music Teachers (SASMT) and am the President of SASMT; I taught piano in Schauderville; before the pandemic I played piano at St Anne's Pre-primary, and I am a shore crew member of the National Sea Rescue Institute. I was also a freelance musician playing at weddings.

### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

Music education policy, multicultural education, democratic citizenship, music heritage, teacher education, identity, protean careers, and ethnomusicology

### **Education**

2002-2004 Doctor Educationis (PhD)

Institution: University of Port Elizabeth (UPE)

Thesis: *How effective is teacher education in South Africa in addressing the challenges of educating for democratic citizenship?*

2001 Magister Philosophiae (MPhil) (Curriculum policy, curriculum development and management)

Institution: University of Port Elizabeth (UPE)

Treatise: *Teaching strategies for multicultural music education in the Intermediate Phase.*

1992 Honours Bachelor of Musicology (UNISA) Title of treatise

Institution: University of South Africa (UNISA)

Treatise: *Recurring themes in the operas Wozzeck and Lulu, by Alban Berg.*

1990 ABRSM Grade 7 Flute

Institution: Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

1989 Higher Diploma in Education

Institution: University of Port Elizabeth

Bilingual competence: English (higher) and Afrikaans (higher)

1989 ABRSM Licentiate in piano teaching

Institution: Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

1988 ABRSM Grade 8 Piano

Institution: Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

1988 ABRSM Grade 8 Theory

Institution: Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

1987 Bachelor of Music

Institution: University of Port Elizabeth (UPE)

1983 Matric

Joint Matriculation Board (JMB)

Institution: Holy Rosary Convent

### **Career path**

July 2010- present University academic at Nelson Mandela University

2008-June 2010 Senior Education Specialist for Arts and Culture (Department of Education, Port Elizabeth District)

2003-2007 Acting Senior Education Specialist for Arts and Culture (Department of Education, Port Elizabeth District)

2001-2002 Secondment to the Education Faculty (Education Faculty, University of Port Elizabeth); Music education and education lecturer

1997-2000 Lecturer at Dower College of Education: Music education and music theory

1989-1996 Music teacher at de Vos Malan Primary School (Schauderville)