

Our Mimi



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Audiovisual Selector

On 12 June Mimi Coertse, one of South Africa's living legends, celebrated her 80th birthday. Her biography is called **Onse Mimi** and is a fitting description for all South African fans. She is well known for her beautiful voice and opera singing. Mimi is still active in promoting the careers of young South African singers, and serves on a variety of bodies set on furthering the broad interest of music and culture in South Africa.

Although this column focuses on our DVD/film collection, I decided as an appetizer to her music, to include a few book titles as well.

Happy birthday Mimi! May you be blessed for many more years!

Van Rooyen, Johan. **MIMI: 'n feesbundel ter viering van Mimi Coertse se sewentigste verjaardag**.- Protea Boekhuis, 2002. (780.92 COE)

This title celebrates Mimi Coertse's 70th birthday. It features her friends and contains contributions by famous as well as ordinary people, divulging how they met Mimi and

the influence she had on their lives. It includes artists such as Ntaniël, Hennie Aucamp, Pieter-Dirk Uys as Evita Bezuidenhout, Pieter de Villiers, DJ Opperman, and more.

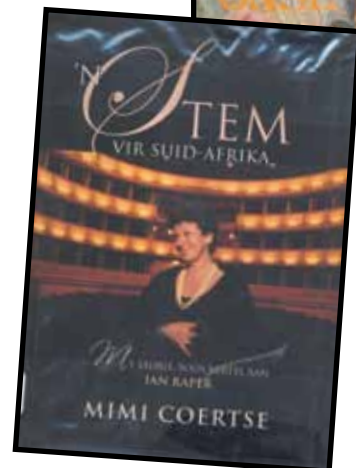
De Wet, Wouter. **Onse Mimi**.- Perskor-Uitg., 1976. (780.92 COE)

This biography covers Mimi Coertse's life from the age of three. It is written in Afrikaans and reads so much like a story that I could imagine myself growing up with her. It is a pity this is not available in English.

It covers her birth, growing up, her school years, husbands, and life. The one thing that inspired me in this book was Mimi's dedication and commitment to singing. She always believed she was going to become a singer and even when she didn't succeed in singing competitions at high school, she went overseas for training and conquered the world.

Coertse, Mimi. **'n Stem vir Suid-Afrika: my storie soos vertel aan Ian Raper**.- Litera, 2007. (780.92 COE)

In this biography, Mimi tells the story of her amazing talent, dedication, personal pain and international fame. Her achievements made her the 'Voice of South Africa'. In her darkest times of isolation she sang about, and for, her country: South Africa. This book is the life story about a gifted woman that throws all her love and sorrow into her dream of becoming the best singer in the world, and achieving it. Her life was just as full of drama as the roles she played.



*Cds in stock***Heimwee**

This CD has an accompanying booklet that provides the lyrics of the songs she sings – as Mimi writes in the booklet: 'Afrikaans, oh most precious language, closest to my heart! What can I say but that this language has had an immeasurable effect on my life and on my being?'

'Years ago I heard a famous singer performing, and the first half of her programme consisted of German lieder. After the interval, however, she started singing traditional folk songs in her mother tongue – the whole performance was transformed into an inspired magical event. At that moment I decided always to include a collection of Afrikaans songs in my programmes, especially in Europe. I wanted to share the beauty of my own language, another side of myself, with music lovers all over the world.

'The CD includes some of our most beautiful and beloved art and folk songs and I hope that you might learn to love this music as much as I do.'

Afrikaanse volksliedjie
Afrikaanse wiegelieliedjie
'n Eenvoudige liedjie
Kersliedjie
Rooidag
Al lê die berge nog so blou
In die stilte van my tuin
Oktobermaand
Kokkewiet
Die berggans het 'n veer laat val
Ek hou van blou
Die roos
Aandblom
Kom dans Klaradyn
O Boereplaas
Op my ou ramkietjie
Mali, die slaaf se lied
Heimwee
Magaliesburgse aandelied

Christmas with Mimi Coertse

This CD features Christmas carols she recorded in one session while she was performing at the Nico Malan Theatre (now known as the Artscape Theatre Centre.)

Silent night
O Jesulein süß
Panis Angelicus
Mary's boy child
Adeste fidelis
The first Noël
Ave Maria
O Tannenbaum
O Holy Night
Joy to the world.

Mimi Coertse birthday tribute

This CD was recorded for Mimi's 60 birthday.

Der Holle Rache from **Die Zauberflöte**
Crudele!..Non mi dir from **Don Giovanni**
Martern aller Arten from **Entführung aus dem Serail**
Ardon gl'incensi from **Lucia di Lammermoor**
E Strano...A Fors' e lui from **La Traviata**
Caro Nome from **Rigoletto**
Tu Che le Vanita from **Don Carlos**
Senza Mamma from **Suor Angelica**
Sola perduta abbandonata from **Manon Lescaut**

Was mein Herz from **Candide**
Seven Boerneef Songs from **Sung in Afrikaans.**

Note: The above mentioned books and CDs are available in the Central Collection.



▲ 'n Briljante Violetta

