

U – the Space | 146 Minnaar | Cnr Bosman and Minnaar Streets | Old Fire Station | Pretoria | 0002 | e: u.thespace@amail.com:

08 January 2023

To whom it may concern

Re:

Concerts SA

Dear Sir / Madam

U – the space is a cultural art hub that is based in Pretoria. As a cultural art hub we pride ourselves with the work we have put into our community. We have gradually introduced the ARTS to the community and will continue doing so, as we believe the arts are a crucial factor that must be accessible to all in all communities.

U – the space's focus is on presenting: Live Music, Visual Arts exhibitions, Fashion and Jewelry exhibitions, Workshops, Book store, Culinary Arts, Open Discussions and Permaculture . U – the space is an alternative space/venue that sets at catering to a public that loves and appreciates the ARTS, as well as allowing artists to have a complete platform wherein they freely express and showcase their craft at a regular level.

This letter serves as a declaration that Concerts SA has been supporting U – the Space live music series from 2018. Our partnership with CSA has been a great contribution to not only us as an Art's venue but has also provided a consistent platform that caters for the many live music lovers/followers in the City of Tshwane. Concerts SA has given the City Of Tshwane an opportunity to develop its many talented musicians who usually didn't have a platform where they can showcase their art-works on a consistent level. Before the support from CSA we witnessed artists (musicians) based in Tshwane had no platform to showcase, they always had to make way to Johannesburg for events. This has since been changed by CSA. Another important factor that Concerts SA has brought in the City of Tshwane is employment, musicians have now gotten used to sharing their art for a fee, making them working musicians (developing professional musicians/ producing world class musicians) which wasn't a usual thing in Pretoria. Through CSA our live music program has employed over 200 musicians over the years. CSA has allowed us an opportunity to contribute to the development of live music culture of Pretoria (in a big way), through CSA we have been consisted in this field, making us the oldest venue still operating in hosting live music. This has not only seem musicians getting employment but also other art avenues have benefited eg; professional photographer, sound equipment companies, sound engineers and etc. This would have not be the case if CSA wasn't on board.

Without doubt in our mind, if Concerts SA wasn't here the South African music scene wouldn't be where it is. The level of high artistry in South African music has a lot to do with Concerts SA. Musicians have found a reliable vehicle that is consisted in supporting their craft, allowing them to focus in their craft while knowing that there is a platform that will cater for them. If Concerts SA wasn't here there would be a big number of unemployment in the live music sector. In a very short term CSA has done enormous work in the SA music scene, even surpassing our government departments who are meant to support the Arts & Culture but are not doing as music as Concerts SA has done over the years. The consistency of CSA speaks in volume (for its self) and the track record is undisputed when compared to any other Art & Culture sector in South Africa.

We are sincerely grateful for what Concerts SA has done for our city and our country as a whole. We hope that the organization continues to do the very important and necessary work they have been doing over the years. We wish for the organization to get further support allowing them to continue growing and supporting the Live Music sector of South Africa.

"Any country that doesn't take pride in supporting it's Arts & Culture is a doomed Country" – Credo VusamaZulu Mutwa

Regards
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Live Music Programs Director //

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<u>U the Space</u>