

WOMEN'S MUSIC MARATHON

Musical marathon on **International Women's Day**
Compositions by women performed by top women vocalists

Thursday 8 March 2012, 7 pm, Kleine Zaal Concertgebouw, Amsterdam

Roberta Alexander – soprano
Irene Maessen – soprano
Tania Kross – mezzo-soprano
Karin Strobos – mezzo-soprano
Reinild Mees – piano

Maartje van Weegen, presenter

Four leading women singers in the Dutch vocal world appear in this unique Women's Music Marathon. These renowned female artists (their names alone guarantee an evening of the highest musical standards) all make a point of supporting and presenting works by women composers. The full-length programme (starting time 7 pm) will be based around several themes and will be presented by Maartje van Weegen. There will be a complimentary meet & greet with the artists after the concert.

The unique canon of works by women composers will be presented on **8 March 2012, International Women's Day**, to offer these women composers and the various styles in which they wrote a platform equal to their merit. The idea for this concert came from pianist **Reinild Mees**, ar-

From left to right:
Irene Maessen (soprano), Tania Kross (mezzo-soprano), Roberta Alexander (soprano), Reinild Mees (pianist), Karin Strobos (mezzo-soprano).



Photography: Janica Draisma

tistic director of **the 20st Century Song Foundation**. An accompanist for many internationally-regarded singers and creator of many exceptional programmes, she was able to obtain the services of such charismatic singers as **Roberta Alexander, Irene Maessen, Tania Kross** and **Karin Strobos** as well as presenter **Maartje van Weegen** for this unique evening.

The singers will each perform a number of songs: the impassioned mezzo-soprano **Tania Kross** will perform music by Hildegard van Bingen, Sofia Gubaidulina and Henriëtte Bosmans, alternating these with music by Judith Weir and Cathy Berberian; 'rising star' and mezzo-soprano **Karin Strobos**, will perform songs by Fanny Mendelssohn, Alma Mahler and Alba Rosa Viëtor; soprano **Irene Maessen** will present music by Clara Schumann, Elisabeth Kuyper, Cécile

Chaminade and Lili Boulanger, whilst star soprano **Roberta Alexander**, known for her performances in opera throughout the world, will perform songs by the American composer Amy Beach and various negro spirituals. The evening will be completed with quartets composed by Catharina van Rennes and duets composed by Pauline Viardot.

*The Women's Music Marathon is a production from the **20st Century Song Foundation** in collaboration with the **Stichting Kamermuziek Amsterdam**.*

www.songfoundation.com



**International
Women's Day**