

# Contributors

1 Sep 2015 : De Kat (English)

AVE: 26410,00

Circulation: 30000,00

Dimensions: w:210 h:264

Publication: DE KAT (English)

Date: 2015-09-01

Page: 6

## CONTRIBUTORS



### 01. MARIA DE VOS

Born and bred in Delmas, Mpumalanga, Maria is currently a freelance make-up artist and beauty blogger, based in Johannesburg. In her search for the ideal career, she has combined several divergent qualifications, and although the platteland runs through her veins, she's a city girl at heart. She finds the combination of people and art fascinating and believes each face is a canvas that offers exceptional results. Maria is DEKAT's newly appointed beauty editor.

### 02. ALEIT SWANEPOEL

Chairman and founder of The Aleit Group, Aleit Swanepoel is regarded as the doyen of South Africa's wedding industry. He sets the tone for wedding etiquette and his exceptional style has made him a trend-setting events planner for the past 20 years. Aleit exchanged his corporate position as events manager for Distell to go it alone more than 14 years ago, and his new career path has been exceptionally rewarding.

Aleit is known for immortalising special moments with glamour and seamless planning. Instinct and a humble calling to be of service to others are some of Aleit's best characteristics, contributing to his excellence. His head is not easily turned by the latest trends, but rather by tangible experiences like travelling, eating, design and architecture.

Aleit has grown his business over the past two decades to an extended company offering a variety of services, including furniture and decor hiring, food and bar services, The Aleit Academy and even a micro brewery. His intense belief in and pursuit of excellence have brought great success.

(Photo: Samantha du Toit from ST Photography.)

### 03. ARWEN SWAN

After searching for quality corsetry and coming up empty-handed, Arwen Swan threw in her graphic design position, taught herself to sew and set herself up in the garment industry. That was eight years ago in an Emmarentia dining room. She has since expanded her one-woman band into an internationally recognised business with full-time staff and a busy orders book. DEKAT is a huge fan and her garments feature on many of our covers.

### 04. WILLEM JANSEN VAN VUUREN

If you've ever received flowers arranged by Willem Jansen van Vuuren, horticulturist at The Factory in Norwood Johannesburg, you'll know his arrangements can stop traffic for the sheer audacity and originality that goes into creating these living artworks. Always reinventing with a keen eye to detail and perfection, Willem says we should take note of the organic movement in the market, and that the interaction of textures and colours speaks a language of its own. Willem interprets colour and shapes to surprise audiences with the magic of flowers and foliage.

### 05. CAREL VAN DER MERWE

Carel van der Merwe was born in Johannesburg, and later studied at Stellenbosch University and the University of Cape Town. In 1995 he was co-founder of African Merchant Bank. From 2000 he lived in the UK for six years, where he completed a master's degree cum laude in creative writing. His first novel, *Nasleep/No Man's Land*, was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Prize, the M-Net Prize (in English) and for the UJ Prize (in Afrikaans.) His novels *Geldwolf/Shark* were published in 2009, and *Skaduwee/Shadow* in 2012. *Geldwolf* was awarded the Eugène Marais Prize. Carel lives in Stellenbosch with his family. *Donker Stroom* is his first historical/biographical work.