

## Career overview

Piet Smit's public involvement in music started in the late 70's as background singer in the pubs and restaurants of his home town - Pretoria - South Africa. He accepted the Lord Jesus as his Saviour in January 1989 and immediately started focusing on the writing and performing of Christian songs.

Since embarking upon a full time music ministry in May 1994, Piet has produced various CDs – including productions in Afrikaans, English and three in the Dutch language. In May 2011 his 31<sup>st</sup> CD appeared on the shelves. Five of his productions have reached “GOLD” status. His second album ‘Heer U maak my nuut’ (*Lord You renew me*) reached “PLATINUM” status in 1999 – a feat that has, to date, not been equaled by any other original, Christian solo album in South Africa.

Piet's ministry focuses on inner healing. He has a passion for helping broken and destitute people who have lagged behind in life. On stage he mostly taps from personal experience – weaving his own spiritual defeats and victories into a musical story line that most listeners can relate to. All his songs are born out of his personal relationship and walk with the Lord Jesus. His honest desire is to use his talent exclusively in honour of God.

Piet's music is rooted in the Country & Folk styles of the 70's – with a very laid back, ‘one-voice-one-guitar’ sound. However, as his talent developed through the years, his music became influenced by other styles such as definite African rhythms as well as more contemporary sounds. With his rich baritone voice, he has even experimented with light opera material.

Piet Smit has ministered in the vast majority of cities and towns in South Africa and Namibia. He has also had many tours and performances in England, Europe, New Zealand, Australia, the UA Emirates, Canada and the USA. Since 2004 Piet has been visiting The Netherlands and Belgium on a yearly basis and has become a household name on the National Dutch Christian Radio Station : E.O. - Evangelische Omroep. (*Evangelical Broadcast*). His CDs have been officially distributed in Holland for some years now.

Piet has been married to his wife Elmarie since April 1987. They live in Moreleta Park in Pretoria – RSA. They have two married sons : Johan who is an Electronics Engineer and Leon – a Youth Pastor.

Piet is a very keen scuba diver and a regular visitor at his local gym.