ONLINE ARTISTIC PROGRAMME SEASON 1
FOREWORD

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STATE THEATRE ONLINE ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

Dear Patron

I trust that you are well and keeping safe, even as we are observing the protocols of Lockdown that has kept us away from each other. Yet, for the sake of seeing each other again, we must stay away for a while, until it is safe to gather together again in the not so distant future.

This year we will celebrate the 39th birthday of The South African State Theatre (SAST) and Africa Day 2020 during a lockdown and as a result we are unable to gather as audiences and performers in an auditorium, to sing, to dance, to speak, to cheer, to clap and to celebrate. But, celebrate we will - thus we are privileged to employ the technology which enables us to connect once more as audiences and performers, and allow us to speak once more on a stage, although you, our audiences, will now be joining us from your homes.

Over the years, our vision has, since circa 2008, been to produce high quality digital stage recordings for broadcast. In 2014, I went as far as Addis Ababa, to share the vision with our African counterparts. In preparing ourselves, the SAST has been actively recording many of the productions that we stage. Over the past six years, we have built-up a significant archive of recorded productions. We are ready to kick off our artistic programme, affording productions and freelance artists a second season, only this time not on the stage but online from our stages.

We will Kick off our online programme with the legends of Iscathamiya, the multi Grammy Award winning Ladysmith Black Mambazo, who earlier this year mourned the loss of the founder, visionary and lead vocalist Dr Joseph Shabalala.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo will honour us with their special performance, never seen online before, except by the 5000 people that witnessed it at the SAST. This is the time to share with you that experience. Then, world-renowned and established dancer and choreographer, Luyanda Sidiya, leads with Amawethu, a multidisciplinary dance piece that is aptly titled and captures the essence of Africa.

Young artists will be represented through our Incubator programme under the Education, Youth and Children’s Theatre department. A highlight will be Percy Maimela, a.k.a The Salt Artist, one of our incubates who broke the Guinness World Record in 2019 for largest artwork made from coffee grounds. Also on the line up, songbird, Ncamisa will serenade with her Birds of Melodies. We urge our supporters to take a look at the exhibitions and support local talent.

Our programme will also bring to you, the history of our country as it continues to grapple with eradicating the vestiges of the brutal legacy of apartheid’s socio-economic engineering and move towards an inclusive democratic dispensation. We will commemorate Marikana massacre with the multi award winning Marikana The Musical. You will also experience online, The Fall, That Night of Trance, Angola, Still, KIU, Elephants Dream and many more.

Our offering will also be aligned with our key themes: Africa Month, Youth Month, Women’s Month, Heritage Month – as well as our standing flagship programmes of Youth Expressions Festival, Vavasati International Festival and Mzansi Fela.
As we navigate the possibilities and opportunities of live recording without audiences, we cannot wait to share with you our envisioned live concerts; anchored by seasoned South African “artists” as well as offerings from Mmapula Setlhako and Hanna Van Tonder. In the same breath, we hope to be able to cover the set works so that we partner with the learners and the Department of Basic Education to bring these to them, to mitigate the interrupted learning process.

For all our aspirant and professional writers, Kgafela oa Magogodi will be leading us through the Lentswe Writer’s Programme – be on the lookout for the callouts so that you can have an opportunity to participate in this ground-breaking programme.

So, put on your mask, join us as we unmask what we have in store to share with you – wash your hands, as you prepare to clap in celebration of the diversity of artistic expression that the SAST team has put together for you.

Aubrey Sekhabi
Artistic Director
21/05/2020
LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO

| Date:    | 24 May - 13 June 2020 |
| Time:    | 15:00                  |
| Genre:   | Music                  |
| Platform:| The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel |

Ladysmith Black Mambazo are a South African male choral group singing in the local vocal styles of isicathamiya and mbube. They became known internationally after singing with Paul Simon on his 1986 album Graceland, and have won multiple awards, including five Grammy Awards, dedicating their fifth Grammy to the late former President Nelson Mandela.

Formed by Joseph Shabalala in 1960, Ladysmith Black Mambazo became one of South Africa’s most prolific recording artists, with their releases receiving gold and platinum disc honours. The group became a mobile academy of South African cultural heritage through their African indigenous isicathamiya music.
Percy Maimela (MP) holds the Guinness World Record for producing the largest artwork using coffee granules. He is a 35-year-old self-taught visual artist and one of the stars to come out of the SAST’s Incubator Programme. In 2018 he was selected to be part of the State Theatre’s Incubator Programme where he was given support and training for the mainstream arts space. He continues to exhibit his works on some of the world’s big stages.

**PERCY MAIMELA**

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<td>Genre:</td>
<td>Exhibition</td>
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<td>The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel</td>
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AMAWETHU

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY LUYANDA SIDIYA
ASSISTED BY PHUMLANI NYANGA

Date: 25 May - 13 June 2020
Time: 15:00
Genre: Multidisciplinary
Platform: The South African State Theatre
YouTube Channel

Telling a human a story that seeks to rectify, more so, reclaim who we are as a people from our culture and customs – and the distortions that predate the African slave trade that led us to believe that our own spirituality had a demonic, pagan, uncivilized, barbaric and godless origin.

The piece aims to create a system for the black child to appreciate and learn more about who they are – as a revival of sorts, Amawethu seeks to enact the wealth of character long lost in our customs and manner of life.
NCAMISA NQANA

Ncamisa is a 29 year old vocalist, backing vocalist, vocal coach, composer, actress and dancer. She calls herself “A bird With Melodies”.

She comes from a musical family. In 2006 she went through classical training until 2009 and scooped awards at the National Eisteddfod and Unisa Youth Festival Competitions. She got an opportunity to launch her music through the SAST Incubator Program under EYCT department. Her theatre credits include; Freedom The Musical (2017-2019) directed by Aubrey Sekhabi, followed by Ingoma - The Musical Journey (2018) directed by Luyanda Sidiya and Hlubi Twin, Cultural Exchange to China (2018) - celebrating 100 years Centenary of Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu directed by Aubrey Sekhabi and Melodi Ya Mamelodi (2018).

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<tr>
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<td>Music</td>
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<td>Platform:</td>
<td>The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel</td>
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Online Artistic Programme - Season 2

ARTDICTION 0.1

Visual Artist: ANATHI “ELPEE” NKANYUZA
Performers: ANATHI MKOSANA
MATOME ABEL “BALLADMAN” RAMPEDI
TEBOGO “TSA-DANKIE” TSOTETSI
Age Restriction: PG All

The destination is far from reach, even the journey hasn’t stopped from pencil to acrylic until death do the part as the candle keep on burning turning peace colour to something never seen. Addicted beings need the fix from now and then, if help is not offered to them accessing rehabilitation centres “rehab”. ARTDICTION needs creativity to the last breath to foresee the uncanny.

This is a story in a form of a journey partaken by the self-taught artist to the city of lights where he saw what he used back in Eastern Cape, in the village of Mbulukweza as a source of light to create incivise messages with no alphabets.

The art piece creator himself grew up with only an imagination of who/how and what his father really was. He lost his father at the age of 7, who was last seen on a payday, his father was then discovered deceased seven days later. Love and passion for art has helped him escape lot of hardships and the help of the widowed house wife that’s his queen of heart, his mother.

Most people saw it as talent but to him it’s way more than that, It’s a stress reliever, a therapy, best friend, guardian Angel. “At times it gets lonely being around people but with my art, my world is complete - Elpee“.

“I must be possessed, maybe obsessed, artistically enslaved or maybe I’m just ARTdicted - Elpee“.

Date: 15 - 28 June 2020
Time: 18:00
Genre: Exhibition
Platform: The South African State Theatre
YouTube Channel
THE FALL

WRITTEN BY: AMEERA CONRAD, OARABILE DITSELE, TANKISO MAMABOLO, THANDO MANGCU, SIZWESANDILE MNISI, SIHLE MNQWAZANA, CLEO RAATUS, KGOMOTSO KHUNOANE

The Fall is a vital and frank collaborative piece of workshop theatre devised by the original cast that took South Africa by storm when it premiered. Seven University of Cape Town Drama graduates share their experiences during the #RhodesMustFall, #FeesMustFall Fall & subsequent student movements’ demonstrations in 2015 and 2016.

The #RhodesMustFall protest was originally directed against a statue commemorating Cecil Rhodes, situated at the foot of the university’s famous Jameson Steps. A month later, following a UCT Council vote the previous night, the statue was removed. The campaign for the statue’s removal led to a wider movement to decolonise education across South Africa, garnering global attention.

Race, class, gender, sexism, colonialism and ideologies of patriarchy – core to global conversations and interventions today - are tackled head-on, seeking to unpack discrimination in all its forms, trailblazing the genre of Theatre for Social Justice. The play does not offer solutions to the questions raised by the movements which inspired it, but hopes to create and nurture dialogue on intersectional and institutionalised discrimination against the marginalised. The Fall adds its voice to the national and worldwide debate and youth-led revolutions against injustices, inequality in education, cultural representation and many other contemporary conflicts.

AGE RESTRICTION: 16

<table>
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<td>Time:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genre:</td>
<td>Drama</td>
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<td>Platform:</td>
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FREEDOM

DIRECTED BY: AUBREY SEKHABI
MUSICAL DIRECTOR: KABELO ‘BONAFIDEBILLI’ TOGEOE
CHOREOGRAPHER: MDUDUZI NHLAPO
SET & LIGHTING DESIGNER: WILHELM DISBERGEN
COSTUME DESIGNER: LESEGO MORIPE

Freedom tells the story of Phindile (Zimkitha Kum-baca), a Tshwane University of Technology student and leader of fees must fall movement. Phindile’s life takes a sharp turn after the student protest at the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

This story is a testament to her determination to triumph despite the odds stacked against her by the system and society at large. She will stop at nothing to fight for the freedom of students, for free education and ultimately her own freedom.

‘Freedom’ also examines the crime and violence that is rife in our modern day society and tackles difficult issues; rape, abuse against women, racism, xenophobia, corruption, and many other issues that cost us our Freedom.

AGE RESTRICTION: 13 LV

Date: 16 June - 5 July 2020
Time: 15:00
Genre: Musical
Platform: The South African State Theatre, YouTube Channel
Speaking From Experience is a journey on the wings of poetry and music. Presented by the State Theatre and supported by a live band, a poet’s voice soars to share his life-time experiences and of others. The production is described as an emotional journey of awareness.

**ARTIST:** TORSTEN TEOGO RYBKA AKA CLEAR  
**AGE RESTRICTION:** ALL AGES

**Date:** 16 June - 5 July 2020  
**Time:** 17:00  
**Genre:** Poetry  
**Platform:** The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
LENTSWE DIGITAL
SCRIPTWRITING PROGRAMME

LENTSWE DIGITAL PLAYWRIGHT’S LAB - WE SHARPEN “THE INSTINCT OF PLAY”

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS
The Lentswe Digital Playwright’s Lab is designed for writers to take their stories to the stage. This is a three (3) month long opportunity to harness script writing skills. Participants will take a closer look at theatrical traditions in South Africa and explore new ways to present stories for the stage. Led by Kgafela aa Magogodi, workshops offer playwrights opportunities to present scenes which will be read from works-in-progress, giving the writers multiple occasions to discuss their scripts with other playwrights.

WHAT THE PROGRAMME WILL OFFER?
Participants will be provided the time to think and create. They will be required to engage with prescribed scribal and non – scribal material. Participants will have the opportunity to consult and participate in lively discussions and will gain experience of working in the writing room. The programme will offer a nurturing though intense, learning environment for participants to gain skills and share knowledge. The aim of this programme is to improve writing, to enhance the quality of the script and to prepare participants to present their projects to peers. Workshops are designed to extract/promote the voice of the writer - via play writing games and exercises, each to explore the dance of their own imagination. There are numerous objectives, but the key learning outcome is a clear understanding of principles of writing for the stage. There will be a play reading of the top 3 scripts.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?
Applications are welcome from writers wanting to learn about writing for the stage. All South African languages are welcome. Applicants must confirm their availability for the different sessions. Participants will work intensively on their projects with a scriptwriting instructor, alternating collective and one-to-one sessions.

REQUIREMENTS
• Biography
• Curriculum Vitae / Portfolio
• Sample of creative writing (One (1) scene from a recent play you have written)
• 300 - 500 word essay responding to the question:
What is invoked in your imagination when you think about the “instinct of play” proposed by H.I.E. Dhlomo?

Email documents to Keamogetswe@statetheatre.co.za by 22 June 2020.
ONLINE ARTISTIC PROGRAMME SEASON 3

2020/21

012 392 4000 | 320 Pretorius Street, Pretoria CBD
admin@statetheatre.co.za
www.statetheatre.co.za
DISCUSSIONS

THE STATE OF SA THEATRE IN THE 70s & 80s

- This will include discussions on the Pre-Historic Origins and Prevailing Perceptions of the Theatre, and the Challenges of Value in Art; The Epistemology of Art, Science, Philosophy & History;
- The Anti-Apartheid Movement and the Distinction between Art & Socio-Political Activism; and the Distinction between Theatre & other Plastic and/or Electronic Media.

THE PLAYWRIGHT, DIRECTOR & ACTOR

- This will include sessions on Playwriting’s Drama, Theme, Plot, Structure, Form, Style, Aesthetic Devices, Language, Music & Spectacle;
- The Director and his Means or Directorial Concept, the Script, Producer, Designers, Casting, Actors, Rehearsals and Assistants;
- The Actor’s Talent, Training and Practices; the Conception and Creation of Woza Albert as an Art Form; The State of SA Theatre in the Post 94 Dispensation.

17 & 18 JULY 2020 AT 10AM
PERCY MTWA

Percy Mtwa is a multi-award winning playwright, actor and director born in Daveyton, near Benoni on the 8th of March 1953. His other talents include singing, dancing, visual arts and script development. He made his township theatre appearances in Destiny Calls by Gilroy Dlukula, Umthakathi by Rhoo Hlatshwayo, Bangoma by Godfrey Goboda and Our Father by Kelly Mgene in the 1970’s as actor, choreographer, music composer and assistant director respectively, and began as author with a short story The Root of Evil and a play Malika. He made his professional theatre debut as actor, singer and dancer in Gibson Kente’s Poor Mama and the Load in 1979, which had seasons at the Market Theatre in Johannesburg, the Baxter Theatre in Cape Town and the Opera House Theatre in PE in 1980.

He co-wrote and acted in the internationally acclaimed Woza Albert! in 1981, which was made into a BBC TV Documentary Film in the same year. This was published by Methuen London in 1983; toured South Africa, Swaziland, USA, UK, Europe and Australia in the 1980’s; and prescribed as Set Book for Schools in the 1990s. Amongst numerous accolades, Woza Albert! and Percy Mtwa received the Scotsman Fringe First Award for Best Play at Edinburgh’s Traverse Theatre in 1982; the Drama Critics Circle Award Nomination for Best Actor at Los Angeles’ Mark Taper Forum Theatre in 1982; the Bay Area Critics Circle Awards for Best Play and Best Actor at San Francisco’s Berkeley Repertory Theatre in 1982; the Laurence Olivier Award Nomination for Comedy Of The Year at London’s West End Criterion Theatre in 1983; the Off-Broadway’s Village Voice Obie Award for Best Play at New York’s Lucille Lortel Theatre in 1984; and the Helen Hayes Award Nomination for Best Actor at Washington DC’s Arena Stage in 1985. Wikipedia describes Woza Albert! as ‘The most successful play to have ever come from South Africa’.

Mtwa also wrote and directed the internationally acclaimed play Bophal in 1985, which was made into ABC TV Documentary Film in USA with narrations by Sidney Poitier in 1986; published in the Woza Afrika Publication in New York in 1987; released into a Hollywood Motion Picture Film by Paramount Pictures in 1993; and also toured South Africa, Swaziland, USA, UK’s British National Theatre and Emilyn Williams Theatre in Wales, Europe and Australia in the mid1980’s. Amongst numerous accolades, Bophal also received the Scotsman Fringe First Award for Best Play at Edinburgh’s Traverse Theatre in 1986; the Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play and Best Director at Los Angeles Theatre Centre in 1987; and the NAACP Award Nomination for Best Director in Los Angeles in 1987.

Mtwa devised and wrote an African Renaissance Poetry Revue titled The Song of the Smoke for FUBA’s 18th Anniversary Celebrations in 1996. He featured as Script Development Consultant and as Assistant Director and Director in Johnny Laate’s Cabbages and Bullets and Emily Tseu’s The Pain respectively for the Windybrow Theatre in 1998. He also featured as Script Development Consultant, Co-author and Director in The African Dream as part of SABC’s African Renaissance Celebrations where former President Thabo Mbeki delivered his African Renaissance Speech in 1998, which featured Sophie Mgcina, Nandi Nyembe and Jones Hlophe in the lead roles. Mtwa was honoured with the Playwright of the Century Star Award at Playwrights’ Permanent Sidewalk Monument in New York in 1998, alongside Samuel Beckett, Bertolt Brecht, Arthur Miller, Eugene O’Neill, Sam Shepard, Tennessee Williams, Athol Fugard, Mbongeni Ngema, and many more.

In 2001, Mtwa sat as Adjudicator with Craig Fermont at the Market Theatre’s Zwakala Festival, and co-directed The Essence with Sello Maake for the Market Theatre’s Young Writers Festival, featuring Harriet Manamela and David Phetoe. In the same year he wrote and directed The Patriot for the Market Theatre, featuring Lebohang Olifant and Peter Mashego. In 2006 Mtwa was invited to direct Woza Albert! for the State Theatre, which featured new talented professionals Tiso Tindisa & Tshallo Chokwa. His other accolades include London’s City Limits Honorary Birthday Award for Best Play Woza Albert! in 1983; London’s British Theatre Association Award for Best Play Woza Albert! in 1983; London’s BBC Africa Service.

Sony Radio Award for Best Actor in Woza Albert! in 1983; Daveyton’s Sabibwa Community Theatre Merit Award for Best Actor in Woza Albert! in 1985; Johannesburg’s AA Mutual Vita Award for Best Play Woza Albert! in 1985; New York’s Woza Afrika Mthuli Shezi Award for Outstanding Theatre Group The Earth Players in 1986; New York’s Lincoln Center Theatre Citation Award for Percy Mtwa in 1986; Johannesburg’s AA Mutual Vita Award Nomination for Best Play Bophal in 1986; and Munich’s Critics Choice Citation Award for Play of the Week Bophal in 1987.
THAT NIGHT OF TRANCE

DIRECTED BY NTSHIENG MOKGORO
CO-WRITTEN BY NTSHIENG MOKGORO & BILLY LANGA
MUSIC DIRECTOR NTSIKA NGXANGA
CHOREOGRAPHER PHUTI MOJELA

Pulane is a 23 year old intelligent and a spiritually gifted woman, who is being taken care of by her grandmother in the village of Matatilele after the sudden tragic death of her parents. Raised by her parents in a more modern and westernized way of living, she turned into a little coconut teenager and struggles to adapt and fit in the village life. As a varsity student her city lifestyle completely contradicted with the values instilled by her grandmother. A story told through poetry, drama, images and movement!

Date: 19 July – 09 August 2020
Time: 15:00
Genre: Drama
Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel

AGE RESTRICTION: PG 13
An Elephant’s Dream is a children’s theatre musical focusing on the hunger and thirst that animals experience in the jungle. Mr Elephant has a dream about Mr Swallow praying for the rain, hoping for the drought to end. Elephant shares his dream with his friend Tholo. When reality strikes Tholo decides to steal An Elephant’s Dream and presents it to the king of the jungle (Lion) as his.

In a particular day, a prayer meeting is held amongst animals, King Lion suggests Mr Swallow lead them in a prayer session. His decision ignites conflict and chaos amongst all the animals.

AN ELEPHANT’S DREAM

| Date:         | 19 July – 09 August 2020 |
| Time:         | 12:00                    |
| Genre:        | Children’s Theatre       |
| Platform:     | The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel |

AGE RESTRICTION: ALL AGES
KOEKELOER!

’n Splinternuwe, eg Suid-Afrikaanse klug wat af-speel in ’n woonstel in Stellenbosch tydens die finale ronde van die Koekedoor-kompetisie. Die twee finaliste is Marie Coleské, ’n oujongnooi van Koekenaap, en Marié Kok, ’n lingerie-model van Ruimsig. ’n Onbeholpe klouterdief en privaatspeurder, ’n jaloerse bokskampioen, ’n stuitige lingerie-ontwerper, ’n statige predikant, ’n omstrede boek en ’n onderstepoek voltooi die res van die bestanddele van hierdie skreeusnaakse resep vir elke moontlike misverstand!

MET GAVIN VAN DEN BERG, BEN PIENAAR, ROCHE VAN BLERK, ÉMIL HAARHOFF, JUANITA DE VILLIERS EN TIAAN SLABBERT

TEKS: BRAAM VAN DER VYVER
REGIE: LIHAN PRETORIUS
ASSISTENT-REGISSEUR: JOHAN VAN DER MERWE
STELONTWERP: RUDI SADLER
KLANKONTWERP: RUDI SADLER EN LIHAN PRETORIUS
BELIGTINGSONTWERP: ÉMIL HAARHOFF
CHOREOGRAFIE: IGNATIUS VAN HEERDEN
STELKONSTRUKSIE EN -KOÖRDERING: NADINE MINNAAR EN CORNÉ ROODT
VERHOOGBESTUURDER: ILKE KÖNIG
ONDERSTEUN DEUR: KUNSSTIG AANGEBIED DEUR DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE STAATSTEATER IN SAMEWERKING MET THEATREROCKET

AGE RESTRICTION: PG 13

Date: 20 July – 09 August 2020
Time: 19:00
Genre: Comedy
Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
TRAFFICKED

CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER: YUSUF THOMAS
REHEARSAL DIRECTOR: SANDILE MAHLANGU
LIGHTING DESIGNER: REFIWE MABOGOANE

CAST
• Adriana Masilo
• Mandla Mokoena
• Stephanie Wright
• Felicia Mrwebi
• Mahlalefi Makete
• Tshepo Mokoena

AGE RESTRICTION: 13+

Date: 21 July – 09 August 2020
Time: 20:00
Genre: Dance
Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel

A thematic Dance work telling the narrative of human trafficking from an African, yet global context.
Zonke Dikana, born 11 October 1979, known simply as Zonke, is a South African singer-songwriter and record producer. Her rise to stardom was in 2011 following the release of her third album Ina Ethe which was certified double platinum and was nominated at the 18th South African Music Awards.

In 2013, she recorded and released Give and Take Live which went on to be certified gold just two months upon its release, and further earned herself a spot in Channel O’s list of Africa’s Top 10 Female Singing Sensations. In September 2015, Zonke released Work of Heart, her fifth album, to critical acclaim and thus getting her nominated in several categories at the 15th Metro FM Music Awards and 22nd South African Music Awards. She is currently signed to Sony Music Entertainment.

On 15 June 2018, she released her fifth studio album LOVE with Sony. Zonke was born in KwaZakhele, Eastern Cape, South Africa. Her father, Vuyisile Dikana, was a drummer for a group called “Black Slave and the Flamingo” while her late step mother Anneline Malebo was a singer for a musical band known as Joy. She is an alumna of the University of the Free State where she graduated with a degree in Human Resource Management in 1997.

During Zonke’s early years as a singer, Anneline Malebo introduced her to several artists including Ringo, Joe Nina and Deborah Fraser who she worked with either in writing or vocal capabilities. Zonke had her big break when she wrote a song titled “Africa, My Motherland” for (Germany)-based band Jazzkantine. The band later became known as Culture Clan after Zonke and rappers Mandla and Mzo.

In 2003, Culture Clan released an album titled Africa. The album was released in Germany, winning awards from the Channel O and Metro FM Music Awards. During her time in Germany, Zonke released her debut studio album Soulitary through Upper Street Records with distribution in Germany, Japan and Italy in 2004. In 2007, she released her second album Life, Love *n Music through Kalawa Jazmee Records.

Zonke Dikana is a versatile singer who can sing in English and Xhosa language.

During her time as a Kalawa Jazmee Records Artist, her genre of music was majorly house music before she switched to afrosoul and neo soul upon signing to TMP Entertainment. Her musical influences include Busi Mhlongo, Miriam Makeba and Brenda Fassie.

She was featured in Mzansi Fela Festival 2019 at the South African State Theatre.

**ZONKE DIKANA**

**Date:** 09 August 2020

**Time:** 15:00

**Genre:** Music

**Platform:** The South African State Theatre, YouTube Channel
ABOUT SIBONGILE KHUMALO

Sibongile Khumalo is the most celebrated member of a musical dynasty, marked by an extraordinary vocal gene-pool and passion for making music. She was born and raised in Orlando West, Soweto. Her parents, Mrs Grace and Prof. Khabi Mngoma, were cultural workers and arts activists, involved in the upliftment of the communities in which they lived.

An award winning musician, she has been lauded as one of the great singing talents of her time, and has inspired the creation of new music by South African composers, both in the classical art song, opera as well as jazz genres.

Khumalo has music degrees from the University of Zululand and Wits University, and an Honorary Licentiate in Music from the University of South Africa. She holds a Post-Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management from Wits Business School.

She is a Fellow of the Africa Leadership Initiative (ALI), an Africa-wide collective of leaders interested in developing a cohort of values-based leadership. She has performed at numerous prestigious venues abroad, and has appeared at every major theatre and jazz festival in South Africa.

Some of her most memorable roles include Bizet’s Carmen (Carmen), Verdi’s Aida as Amneris, Il Trovatore as Azucena, Un Ballo in Maschera as Ulrica, and as The Witch in Engelbert Humperdiinck’s Hansel und Gretel. She took on the role of the Princess Magogo, in Mzilikazi Khumalo’s Princess Magogo ka Dinuzulu, a role which she had to shape.

Khumalo has also sung in a variety of oratorios, including the Verdi and Mozart Requiems. Mzilikazi Khumalo wrote some of the arias in the epic poem UShaka ka Senzangakhona with her voice in mind, and the songcycle Haya Mntwan’ Omkulu, a cycle of eight of Princess Magogo’s songs, was commissioned for her.

With her first love being the stage, she has not only performed in music shows and musicals, she has co-created, directed the music of, and produced stage performances, including the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 2013 Africa Cup of Nations, hosted by South Africa.

Mama Sibongile performed for Kwanele a production which was commissioned by the Department of Arts and Culture in 2019 to participate in Luanda Biennale – Pan-African Forum, to promote a Culture of Peace in Africa. The Biennale was based on four axes: namely the Forum of Ideas, The Youth Forum, The Women’s forum and the Festival of Cultures.

She holds the National Order of Ikhamanga in Silver (OIS), by Order of the President of South Africa, in recognition of her contribution to the advancement of arts and culture in South Africa. Khumalo mentors young performers, with a focus on self-awareness and the spiritual essence of the creative personality, restoration and healing.

A consummate professional, Khumalo is not only a household name in South Africa, she is recognised wherever she goes, spreading vocal magic, warmth and passion to young and old alike.

Date: 30 August 2020
Time: 15:00
Genre: Music
Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
MOSADI POO

INSPIRED BY DUMA NDLOVU’S THE GAME
DIRECTOR: MAPULA SETLHAKO
ADAPTER/WRITER: MXOLISI MASILELA
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: TLHAPANG PETSO
SET DESIGNER: MXOLISI MASILELA
CHOREOGRAPHER: KENNETH MPHAHLELE
COMPOSER: XOLISILE BONGWANA
LIGHTING DESIGN: SURPRISE MOSEHLA
COSTUME DESIGNER: KENNETH MPHAHLELE
SOUND DESIGNER: SIZWE NDABANE

MANGI TABEKA AS MOSADI POO
NONHLANHLA DUBE AS FAITH
HAPPY KHAFELA AS LEETO
AMANDA KHUMALO AS DESTINY
XOLISILE BONGWANA AS LENTSWE
THABANG CHAUKE AS LEBELO
RAYMONG NGWENYA AS LEKGETHO
MONGEZI MABUNDA AS LEBAKA

Mosadi POO is the story of a woman who is arrested for murder, she took action against disquiet, deceits, famine and abuse. This woman has changed the rules of the game, she inverted her own rules now the huge board game (life) has chewed her and spit her off. She is now forced to learn the new game and how to play it with her conscious and subconscious self for survival. This narrative happens in the head of Mosadi POO, who is in the solitary confinement. Anger, illusions, brokenness, vengeance and love drives this narrative.

AGE RESTRICTION 16+

Premieres: 10 August 2020 at 19:00
Ends: 31 August 2020
Genre: Drama
Platform: The South African State Theatre
YouTube Channel
ONLINE ARTISTIC PROGRAMME - SEASON 4

MARIKANA - THE MUSICAL

CREATIVE TEAM
BOOK & DIRECTOR: AUBREY SEKHABI
COMPOSER & MUSICAL DIRECTOR/MINER: MPHOMCKENZI MATOME
COMPOSER & MUSIC PRODUCER/PIANIST: ZAKHELE MABENA
CHOREOGRAPHER: THABO RAPOO
SET, LIGHTING AND VIDEO DESIGNER: WILHELM DISBERGEN
COSTUME COORDINATOR & SENIOR STAGE MANAGER: IRENE MOHEEDI MATHE
SOUND ENGINEER: RICHARD MITCHELL
ASSISTANT SOUND ENGINEER: ZWELIBANZI JAN
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: TSHEPO RATONA

MARIKANA - THE MUSICAL is an award winning adaptation by Aubrey Sekhabi of the novel entitled “We Are Going To Kill Each Other Today The Marikana Story” by Felix Dlangamandla, Thanduxolo Jika, Lucas Ledwaba, Sebabatsa Mosamo, Athandwe Saba and Leon Sadiki. MARIKANA - THE MUSICAL has received an unprecedented 13 Naledi Theatre Nominations and went on to win six Naledi Theatre Awards alone during its 2015 run at The South African State Theatre.

On 16 August 2012, after a standoff of several days that led to the loss of ten lives, South African Police blazed fire on mineworkers who had gathered on a kopjie (hill) at Marikana in the North West Province in defiance of their employer, their trade union and ultimately, the South African state. The tragedy made headlines and shocked the world all over. Meshack Mavuso and Aubrey Poo lead a strong cast of 30 artists that unleashes a blow-by-blow account of the events that led to the loss of 44 lives at the hands of the police and miners.

“Tomorrow morning, the men will sing again. Their spears, pangas, inculas and sticks will clatter menacingly. They will recite battle cries from their homelands, and move about in organised columns, raising clouds of dust. But 34 of them will sing for the very last time.” Marikana - The Musical gives faces and names to fallen brothers, sons, fathers and uncles. 23 years into our democracy, can we say that we are a tolerant society if we can lose so many lives in our own hands? The production uses new compositions by Mpho Mckenzi Matome and Zakhele Mabena, and the traditional songs that were sung in unison and beautiful harmonies as the miners expressed their emotions, frustrations, poverties and miseries.

AGE RESTRICTION: ALL AGES

Premieres: 12 August 2020 at 15:00
Ends: 06 September 2020
Genre: Musical
Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
ONLINE ARTISTIC PROGRAMME - SEASON 5

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STATE THEATRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH SANAP PROUDLY PRESENTS

PEO COLLOQUIUM:

A Series of aligned thoughts, planning and collective building dialogues.

PEO

A Setswana name for “seed” is a symbolic that represents the opportunity we are sitting on. While the world is upended this period offers us a rare opportunity to stop and take stock of the way we have been doing things, of how we have related to this end.

The ground is fertile for conversation and change behavior amongst artists particularly, particularly the previously disadvantaged, women and the LGBTQI communities. We have to plant a seed now if we are hoping to salvage our industry and grow it differently beyond the pandemic.

PEO COLLOQUIUM

Is a curated series of webinars focused on creating a non-hostile dialogue platform for professional engagement where artists can share their lessons leading up to and during the pandemic with an intent to challenging them to come up with solutions that can shape and sustain the performing arts sector post the Covid-19 pandemic.

PEO COLLOQUIUM: WOMEN IN ARTS SPEAK

“BUILDING BRIDGES BEYOND A PANDEMIC”

PEO COLLOQUIUM: INDEPENDENT ARTS PRODUCERS

“LESSONS FROM THE STREETS, OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE”

PEO COLLOQUIUM: ART IN OUR LANGUAGES

“CULTIVATING STORIES PRESERVING OUR LANGUAGES”
WOMEN IN ARTS SPEAK

“Building Bridges Beyond a Pandemic”

When the whole world stopped due to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic it forced most of society to step and take stock of what is really important. The South African artistic community suffered a major loss when the President declared a state of disaster and locked down the country. Artists have through this period struggled for survival and there has been a lot of anger and frustration towards the current state of affairs.

Our country has a rich history of the arts and over the last 26 years we have slowly transformed our artistic community to be the leader in modelling society, the “PEO” dialogue series on this “Woman’s Month” recognizes the gains, the challenges and the opportunities that exist for women in the arts. The platform is developed to share ideas and explore thoughts, concepts and policy suggestion moving out of the COVID pandemic.

Under the theme “Building Bridges Beyond the Pandemic” “PEO” dialogues are a deliberate attempt to start a new conversation that seeks to identify a model of relating as we reopen the industry and we believe women in the arts like in society are at the core of this conversation.

“If you are to free yourselves you must break the chains of oppression yourselves. Only then can we express our dignity. Only when we have liberated ourselves we can co-operate with other groups. Any acceptance of humiliation, indignity or insult is acceptance of inferiority” - Winnie Mandela.

At a time when women in our society are facing an major challenge not only with the COVID-19 pandemic but the scourge of Gender Based Violence, it is only natural that we accept the importance and protection of their right to be heard and believe and also look to them to be led. The first dialogue sees women in fashion, theatre, dance, photography and community arts development explore topics that will provoke thought and encourage dialogue across the different artistic platforms.

INDEPENDENT ARTS PRODUCERS

“Lessons from the streets, opportunities for the future”

What are the challenges independent arts across different artistic fields have faced in creating, marketing and selling work? What have the challenges been over the years leading up to the pandemic? How have they managed to stay alive in these challenging times?

Artists explore lessons that have come handy in this time because their everyday existence has represented a pandemic like environment. The talk will explore opportunities that have developed in this time and speak to how one has to stretch themselves beyond their immediate artistic speciality.

ART IN OUR LANGUAGES

“Cultivating Stories Preserving Our Languages”

Panel discussion will focus on the importance of indigenous languages in the professional space. Over the last 26 while more and more Black people have been integrated into mainstream arts and literature Black produced work has struggled with the classification of either “development” or “community” words loosely translated to “unprofessional”. How do we demystify these stereotypes and celebrate our languages on par with English and Afrikaans in a South African context?

The challenges that we are facing in this pandemic aren’t unique to this period, what the pandemic has achieved is to bring to the fore the urgency in which we need to think, act and build differently for the preservation and professionalisation of our languages in the arts.
THE SOUTH AFRICAN STATE THEATRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH SANAP PROUDLY PRESENTS

PEO COLLOQUIUM: WOMEN IN ARTS SPEAK

“Building Bridges Beyond a Pandemic”

JOIN OUR LIVE WEBINAR

📅 28 AUGUST 2020
⏰ 12:30 - 14:00

MODERATOR

PALEŠA KWITSHANA
Marketer and Brand Strategist

APHIWE MPAHLENI
Founder of the Mowling Stories Theatre

KARABELO PLAATJIE
Theatre Practitioner and Storyteller

LINDIWE LETWABA
CEO at Vuyani Dance Theatre

| STATE THEATRE | SANAP | YouTube | Zoom | Facebook Live |
PALESA KWITSHANA

Palesa Kwitshana is a thought leader, business and marketing specialist. A graduate of the internationally famed AAA school of Marketing and Advertising. She holds further qualifications from the Wits Business School and GIBS. Her extensive career has seen her taking roles in various Corporate, Media, PR and Performing Arts institutions.

She is the former MD of the KZN Fashion Council where she formed an integral part in the development and roll out of the Africa Fashion Exchange (AFX), a flagship program providing exposure for local designers. Her performing arts experience saw her being appointed as the Marketing Manager for the Playhouse Company where she worked on developing relationships between the theatre and corporate brands.

Palesa is a founder director of SA Fashion Institute and Brand U, a brand development and marketing specialist agency.

KARABELO LEKALAKE PLAATJIE

Karabelo is a director, scholar, administrator and cultural activist. She holds a Master’s Degree in Dramatic arts from the university of the Free State where she went to lecture theatre. A published scholar who contributed an article for the UNISA press “Black Female Directors in South African Theatre”.

Amongst many industry positions she has held, none makes her prouder than being chairperson of the Free State Wombman in Theatre, which promotes a collaboration of women in the arts fraternity that are aspiring to create professional platforms for women. Wombman has become an integral part of the South African arts landscape, through its “Camagu Theatre and Dance Festival”.

Karabelo is a passionate theatre director and producer with a passion for developing a professional industry, with a particular focus of promoting work from the Free State province to the world.
APHIWE MPAHLENI

Aphiwe is a Cape Town based choreographer, administrator and educator. She holds a BA in Dance Pedagogy from the University of Cape Town. Aphiwe has extensive experience in dance teaching and performance having graced festivals like Dance Umbrella, Baxter Dance Festival and Zabalaza Festival.

Her passion for theatre and dance for development sees her sitting as the current secretary of the Collective of Creative Arts (CoCA). Her educator role has seen implementing dance programs for schools like Zonnebloem Nest High School Chris Hani Arts and Culture focus Schools and Norwood Primary School.

Aphiwe is a Founder and Director of Moving Stories Theatre Organisation, an organisation focused on developing youth black female performers.

LINDIWE LETWABA

Lindiwe Letwaba is the CEO of the international acclaimed Vuyani Dance Theatre. Her management skills has seen Lindiwe make a switch from working extensively with Corporate Social Investments for Tshikululu Social Investments, a Trust Finance and risk portfolio company overseeing the finance and trust administration functions between corporate companies and non-governmental organisations.

It was her work at Tshikululu that brought her into Vuyani Dance Theatre where she has championed the strategic sustainability of the company as a business. Lindiwe brings a unique skill of understanding relationships between funders and institutions, business risk management, while focusing on building sustainable organisations.

Her passions for dance administration has seen her developing VDT, a development strategy that has seen the continuity of the company by introducing multiple levels for dancer development.
THE SOUTH AFRICAN STATE THEATRE IN ASSOCIATION
WITH SANAP PROUDLY PRESENTS

PEO COLLOQUIUM:
INDEPENDENT
ARTS PRODUCERS

“LESSONS FROM THE STREETS, OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE”

JOIN OUR LIVE WEBINAR

📅 11 SEPTEMBER 2020
⏰ 12:30 - 14:00

MODERATOR

MATJAMELA MOTLOUNG
Arts Manager, Theatre Producer/ Director, Podcast

PANELISTS

VINCENT MOLOI
Film Producer/ Director

ZANDILE TSHABALALA
Visual Artist

LEBO TSOARI
Actor/Musician/Dancer
ONLINE ARTISTIC PROGRAMME - SEASON 5

MATJAMELA MOTLOUNG

Matjamela Motloung 20yrs aptitude in various spheres of theatre in both social development and commercial work is exceptional. He is a theatre Director, Producer and Trainer who was discovered through the Market Theatre Standard Bank Arts Administration program in 1998. And he advanced to different roles at the Market Theatre for 13yrs culminating in him being the head of Market Theatre Laboratory from 2008–2011. The Market Theatre Laboratory; founded in 1988, is the premiere theatre training facility of its kind in Southern Africa.

Among Matjamela’s many success at the Lab, he founded the Ramolao Makhene Theatre in honor of the late actor, a space dedicated to producing the best of community theatre arts annually, achieved accreditation for the theatre school bringing the school on par with some of the leading training institutions in the country.

Over the last 10 years Matjamela has worked across the country with different institutions and organizations including recently as the Resident Director for Development for the Playhouse Theatre Company. He is the founder and director of Ruban Noir Pty Ltd, founded in 2012, a company with a focus on assisting previously disadvantaged artists to gain access to the professional stages with a particular focus on women development and stories from Africa and the Diaspora.

VINCENT MOLOI

Vincent is an acclaimed multi-award winning director, an auteur who’s exceptional amongst his peers when it comes to the creation of original, inimitable content. He confidently straddles factual and fiction content, using his documentary roots to inform his love for narrative storytelling. It is this very understanding of realism that informs his folkloric-manner of storytelling. Vincent has produced and directed various television productions for both local and international broadcasters.

In his seminal and recording breaking TV series Tjovitjo; a project he helmed with the ability of an adroit master where his company partnered with an independent theatre development company The Plat4orm. It’s Vincent believe that for purity of performance new and younger cast had to receive theatre training even though they would be on a TV show.

There is a fearless pioneering edge to Vincent’s work, making him exceptional in his craft as a filmmaker.
ZANDILE TSHABALALA

Zandile Tshabalala is a visual artist born and raised in Soweto. Currently she is completing her BA(FINA) at the University of the Witwatersrand. The mediums she uses most are acrylic, oil paint and at times infuses the two with some sculptural elements and puts it all on canvas. She tends to revisit and make reference to the works of painters who came before her, and interpret or rework the works in the way she sees fit for her narrative and relatable to her practice. To name a few artists, the works of Kerry James Marshall, Njideka Akunyili-Crosby, Cinga Samson, Nandipha Mntambo and Henri Rousseau have stood out the most in influencing the artist’s way of thinking and working through her paintings.

In her work she is interested in topics of representation particularly the representation of the black women in historical paintings. The artist noticed a pattern whereby the black woman in paintings was usually placed at the background and starts to disappear almost as if she is not present or is placed in compromising situations that reinforce the idea that the black woman is inferior and should be marginalized. The artist felt a strong need to challenge these ideas and give back the black woman’s voice in her paintings by placing the black female figure in a powerful position that allows her to be in control of her own body and the gaze that is exchanged between her and the viewer. The artist then starts to tap into topics of beauty, sensuality and the relationship between the black female body and the landscape.

LEBO TSOARI

Lebohang Tsoari known by stage name Lebo T is a Motswako rapper, Actor, dancer, filmmaker and designer. She is a graduated of the internationally recognised Soul Candi Institute of Music. Following her graduation she has performed on multiple hip hop an talent shows and this led her to collaborating with industry giants like Mandla “King Don Father” Spikiri, which is also one of the hit singles he released for the dramatic play to celebrate his 50th birthday album. Her acting saw her get cast on her breakthrough role in the local hit dance drama “Tjovitjo” in 2017.

As a film maker, Lebo has worked on her Character Driven Documentary conveying her life’s journey in the music industry. She is currently working on developing content as a vlogger for her Youtube channel. Her fashion brand ‘Maru’, a head brand selling caps, bags, beanies and bucket hats which she manufactures herself. She is determined and aspires to be one of the most influential women in Africa in the next coming years.
ONLINE ARTISTIC PROGRAMME - SEASON 5

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STATE THEATRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH SANAP PROUDLY PRESENTS

PEO COLLOQUIUM: ART IN OUR LANGUAGES
“Cultivating Stories Preserving Our Languages”

JOIN OUR LIVE WEBINAR

📅 25 SEPTEMBER 2020
⏰ 12:30 - 14:00

MODERATOR

KARABO KGOKONG
Producer / Actor / Activist

LEBO LEISA
Producer / Author / Director / Activist

SABATA MKKAE
Author / Academic

MANDLA MBOTHE
Director / Producer

STATE THEATRE
an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

SANAP
South African Native Arts Productions

The South African State Theatre

YouTube

Zoom

Facebook Live
KARABO KGOKONG

Theatre Producer, actor, administrator, arts activist and voice over artist, Karabo Kgokong is a dynamic arts practitioner based in Mahikeng, the capital city of the North West Province. Having started his training as an actor at the former North West Arts Council (now Mmabana Arts, Culture and Sports Foundation) in 1996, he went further to train at the South African State Theatre (Artistic Reality Acting Studio - ARAS) under the tutelage and direction of Paul Grootboom. Karabo has to his belt many theatre shows to his credit as an actor, including: ‘Cards’, ‘Relativity: Township Stories’, ‘Brothers in Blood’ of which he was nominated for best supporting actor by the Naledi Awards in 2009, ‘Grimm Tales’ and many more. In the 14 years of independent producing, Karabo has produced a number of theatre shows, including, but not limited to; Phillip Dikotla’s ‘Skierlik’ - which toured nationally, Amsterdam and the UK, ‘13’ by Mncedisi Shabangu, ‘Relativity: Township Stories’, ‘Of Cats and Dogs’, ‘Third Coming’, ‘Potchefstroom Road- Tribute To Rex Rabanye’, ‘BOY - Note To A Generation’ and the Setswana musical, ‘Kgolo’ which he also conceptualized and co-wrote. The production was first staged at the Windybrow Theatre in 2010, and went on to be staged at PACOFS in Bloemfontein, Mmabana Arts Centers - in Mahikeng and Taung, Christiana All Seasons Theatre and The South African State Theatre in Pretoria. Karabo has always been passionate about telling stories which are mostly left in the periphery, aiming to bring them on to the spotlight of the mainstream theatre. He continues to do that to this day.

As a young producer, Karabo Kgokong was part of the second producers academy in Brussels, Belgium in 2017, which was funded by the EU and he was also part of the Festival Academy’s Atelier for Young Festival Managers which was held for the first time in Africa, in Johannesburg 2018. He is the newly elected national chairperson of Im4theArts, an industry lobbying movement that aims to ensure that #ArtistsLivesMatter.

LEBO THOPE LEISA

Lebo Leisa, artistically known as Thope is An award winning Theatre Director/Playwright of the a musical production “PALEHO” that has toured across South Africa, Lesotho & Botswana. A dedicated multi-talented, self starter whose love and dedication to the Arts has seen her initiatives stay operational even under adverse situation. An accomplished administrator in her own right and Serving as the Secretary General in a women’s organization called “Free State Wombman In Theatre”. She is an art activist and has passion in advocacy in the empowerment of women in the arts. Lebo Is a Founder/Producer/Curator of Various artistic programs & Women’s Initiatives such as Tlouhadi Women’s Festival, MACUFE- Ha e kupe Poetry Festival, Camagu Quolloquium (Celebrating Winnie Mandela), Camagu-Theatre and Dance festival just to mention but a few. She is Theatre Director, a published author, a Producer, an esteemed mentor, a feminist, a performing artist, and
recently ventured into film and working with the National Film and Video Foundation for her film development. She is a young female who inspires many young souls in the country and has travelled to share her experience in the country and internationally. (Belgium).

Her contribution and commitment towards the promotion and the development of indigenous languages as a young woman, have seen her being awarded a Sesotho Literary Award by the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation in 2019. Currently she is one of the writers of Lesedi fm loved Soapie called Monyaka.

SABATA MOKAE


MANDLA MBOTHWE

Mbothwe is senior Lecturer and Researcher at the University of Cape Town, a founder and Artistic Director at Mud and Fire Parables, Co-Artistic director at Magnet Theatre, co-Artistic director at Mbothwe and Doni Collective. He completed his master’s degree in Theatre and Performance with distinction at University of Cape Town. He is an acclaimed South African playwright, researcher, director, art teacher and theatre practitioner. A previous Artistic Director at the Steve Biko Centre and former Creative Manager at Artscape Theatre Centre. He has conceptualised, created and directed/curated interdisciplinary performances and productions of high quality. He work is mostly based on Reclamation of the Stole Memory placing language and African dream at the centre of his creations; dealing with cultural and historical themes. Some of his noteworthy work includes Isivuno samaphupha (Harvesting of dreams), Ingcwaba le ndoda lise cankwedlela (The grave of the man is next to the road), Umyenzo we zandi (Eden of sounds), Inxeba lo mphilisi (The wound of a healer), Voices of Women, UkuKhtho ko Mendi (The sinking of the Mendi), Biko’s Quest, G7-OkweBokwe, Bikorising, Iyazika, Nguvu yaMbegu, Izaci naMachiza, Oratorio of a Forget Youth, Side Sibe banye noMendi, Ubuphuthelwa/insomnia and Ityala lamawele to mention but few.

He curated multiple Festivals and Award Ceremony events. The theatre stalwart has won several awards including the Handspring Puppetry Award for Best Visual Theatre (2010), Fleur du Cap Award with Mark Fleishman and Jennie Reznok for Innovation in Theatre (2010), Fleur du Cap Award for Innovation in Theatre (2013) and Eastern Cape Arts & Culture Award for Outstanding Contribution in Drama (2013). Fleur du Cap Award for best Theatre Director for 2019. He serves in multiple Boards.
DIRECTOR: BOLANLE AUSTEN-PETERS  
COMPOSER: KEHINDE ORETIMEHIN  
SET AND LIGHTS DESIGNER: YEMI LIGHTS WAHIB

The musical presented chronicles the complicated life and times of the late legendary musician, Fela Anikulapo Kuti, also known as Fela Kuti, or simply Fela. From birth to life as a defiant and uncompromising social activist, a flamboyant musical maestro and his historic marriage to his 27 wives (known as the Queens). The story of Fela and his Kalakuta Queens is a compelling one, while at the same time deeply moving and emotionally engaging. It travels through the honest and selfless love the icon had with his dancers (Queens) who left their homes to follow him, believing in his vision of building a better community through arts and music.

The musical also explores the lives of these women who constituted an integral part of his band and gives a unique insight into the negotiation of gender and power relations at the Kalakuta Republic, while also showcasing their unique fashion, dance and African identity, and unmasking common misconceptions about them. Following a successful premiere in their home country capital, Lagos in 2017, Fela and The Kalakuta Queens Musical has without a doubt become a sensation across the globe.

Age Restriction: 13 L

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<thead>
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<th>Dates:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tickets:</td>
<td>R70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genre:</td>
<td>Musical</td>
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<tr>
<td>Platform:</td>
<td>The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel</td>
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Relive the fantasy of fairytales and romance that will enchant the little ones and make grown-ups feel like children again. Get your ticket today on Webtickets.

Date: 6 Sept at 15:00 - 27 Sept 2020

Tickets: R70

Genre: Pantomime

Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
On 22 January 1879, in the shadow of an imposing rocky outcrop called iSandlwana, the bloodiest defeat inflicted on the British Army during the Victorian age took place.

An unequal struggle between an industrialised nation with the best weapons the technology of the age could provide fought a battle against a people fighting for their country with little more than raw courage to sustain them – with the inspired Zulu warriors emerging victorious.

Is there ever victory in battle? Who bears the cost of war? Join musician, historian and heritage enthusiast Mbuso Khoza as he weaves together the lives of Zulu patriots like Ntshingwayo ka Mahole and Methlokazulu ka Sihayo and professional British soldiers such as Anthony Dunnford and Charlie Harford – the men who were at the human heart of the savage and iconic Anglo-Zulu War by examining the songs –Amahubo – composed during that age.

Using the language of the music, Khoza presents not only a gripping picture of the pressures that drove both sides to a terrifying and bloody confrontation, but a definitive history of the battle that has shaped the political fortunes of not only the Zulu people but of the entire African population in this part of the world to this day.

**AMAHUBO IN CONCERT**

**BY MBUSO KHOZA**

**FEATURING ZAWADI**

Date: 24 September 2020 at 19:00

Tickets: R70 - R100

Genre: Music

Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
Zoë Modiga is an artist who represents the present and future of South African music drawing from the roots of African storytelling, Jazz composition and Motown soul but creating a sound entirely her own in order to communicate an evolving African sound without loosing its essence.

A celebrated artist at home with awards such as the Mbkodo Award - an event to recognise women who have shown leadership, fostered growth and made efforts to strengthen the arts - in South Africa (2018) and SAMRO Overseas Scholarship Competition (2015). Zoë’s debut album was nominated for Best Jazz Album and Best African Artist for the 24th South African Music Awards 2018. Zoë recently released her highly anticipated sophomore album ‘Inganekwane’ which hit the top 10 on the Apple Music SA Charts and #1 on the Apple Music SA World Charts, the rave reviews cementing her place as an artist of excellence both at home in South Africa and across the globe.

Zoë has performed at celebrated festivals at home in South Africa such as the The Cape Town International Jazz Festival, Standard Bank Joy of Jazz, Durban Jazz Festival, Oppikoppi, Rocking the Daisies, Afropunk, Redbull Music Festival, Hugh Masekela Heritage Festival, Joburg Film Festival, Fete De La Musique, Basha Uhuru Festival, and many more. International she has played the famed MTN Bushfire Festival in eSwatini, toured Mozambique, the USA as part of Somi’s Africa Salon series and more recently in Germany with Seba Kaapstad. Zoë has collaborated with some of South Africa’s finest musicians including Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Thandiswa Mazwai, Johnny Clegg, Simphiwe Dana, Louis Maholo, Tshepo Tshola and many more.

From her township upbringing, raised by its people and community with a strong influence of her grandmother and grandfather of the importance of the retention of African stories and culture her love of music shown through at a young age leading her to attend the National School of the Arts in Braamfontein.

A self produced world class artist; singer, songwriter, performer, bandleader. Through collaboration and creativity at the highest level creating a bold and vibrant transcendent live performance with strong bold visuals, vibrant fashion and world class dance, showing the beauty and simplicity of telling stories in our own languages to reach to the core of a global audience.

Zoë Modiga is an artist challenging the status quo and inspiring a new generation, a true representation of excellence.

**Date:** 27 September 2020 at 15:00

**Tickets:** R70 - R100

**Genre:** Music

**Platform:** The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
METSI

Written by Hannah N van Tonder and Paul Noko
Dramaturge by Paul Noko
Directed by Hannah N van Tonder

CAST: Xolisile Bongwana as Sikhathi, Abongile Maurice Matyutyu as Motswahole, Balindile KaNgcobo as Juliet, Thulisile Binda as Mhlaba

The roar of her cry are the rains that shakes the ocean to create waves. Naked in the glow of the moonlight shooting stars, turning them to liquid stars racing to come to be inside the moon bulb planting a seed in the most fertile soil. It’s a story about spiritual connection between Juliet Zulu and Mutswahole Mukubung. What happens when you have nothing to give but the inner being in you?

Date: 28 September - 18 October 2020
Genre: Drama
Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
Broken Jar is a project by BMK where they have invited men to talk about their problems and challenges of Gender Based Violence.

**Date:** 6 November 2020 at 17:30  
**Tickets:** Free Entrance  
**Genre:** Music  
**Platform:** The South African State Theatre
BODIES UNDER SIEGE

Bodies Under Siege was originally broadcasted on the Global Stage during the 2020 Gothenburg Book Fair. Bodies Under Siege is a South African production of spoken word poetry and music which amplifies the voices and the plight of women and the LGBTQI+ community. Borrowing voices from women, the LGBTQI+ community, as well as men, Bodies Under Siege holds the conversation to the light with featured poets Vangile Gantsho, Christie "FossilSoul" van Zyl and Solly "Soetry" Ramatswi who through their work are vocal, and introspective, of the struggles women and the LGBTQI+ community face; such as gender based and sexual violence, hate crimes, body shaming, and many other societal issues which affect these individuals. They are accompanied by a live band made up of Phuti Sepuru on keyboard, Concord Nkabinde on bass guitar and David Klassen on percussion.

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<td>Music/ Poetry</td>
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<td>Platform:</td>
<td>The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel</td>
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KABELO “BONAFIDE BILLI “TOGEO

Kabelo “Bonafide Billi “Togoe is an award-winning composer, arranger, music producer, singer-songwriter and rap artist. In 2016 Togoe became the composer and musical director of the block buster musical titled “Freedom” written and directed by playwright and director Aubrey Sekhabi. Togoe won the Naledi Awards for best score / adaptation / arrangement.

Date: 15 Nov at 15:00 - 15 Dec 2020

Tickets: R120

Genre: Music

Platform: The South African State Theatre YouTube Channel
ENCORE HOMECOMING

Encore is Celebrating 10 years since the group was formed and bringing a showcase to State Theatre where it all began.

The group of trio consists of three gentlemen lead by Kabelo on lead vocals and guitar with a powerful and unique voice, supported by Keabestwe on bass and the musical director Peter on keyboard.

Date: 27 November 2020 at 20:00
Tickets: R150
Genre: Music
Platform: Opera Theatre