



ZWISH!

DECEMBER 2023

Kallen Gray

UNSTOPPABLE

CHRISTMAS EDITION

Welcome to

THE TEAM

ZWISH!



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Di Lorenzo
International Liaison



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“Jingle All The Way”



THE Z CREATIVE



SEASON'S GREETINGS

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers,

And so, we have reached the end of 2023! I don't know if it is just me, but this year has flown past in a blur!

As you celebrate the festivities with friends, colleagues and loved ones, and the shops and roads get busier, please remember to breathe before reacting, and spare a smile for those hard at work in the service industries.

It warms my heart to see so many crews and talent shooting in locations around Cape Town. It feels like new beginnings, and I am truly excited to see what 2024 will hold for us all.

May the new year bring you great health, joy, excitement, and much success.

Please be vigilant and stay safe. When the going gets better, it's easy to become complacent.

Thank you for your continued support and wonderful submissions.

As always, thank you to our Managing Editor, Hannelie, our International Liaison, Daniela, our

In-house Photographer, Bia, and Zoryn, our muse.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New year!

With love and blessings,
Martéz



Photographer: Milan Cronje

FROM MY FAMILY TO YOURS



Model/Actress: Martéz Saporta-Rothuysen
Agency: the MMM agency





MODELS
ACTORS
CLASSIC
LIFESTYLE
PRESENTERS
INFLUENCERS
VOICE ARTISTS

WE CELEBRATE ALL AGES, SHAPES & SIZES
PRIVELEDGED TO REPRESENT
ABLE BODIED,DIFFERENTLY ABLED
EXTREME SPORTS TALENT

MODEL/VIOLINIST

UNSTOPPABLE

Model - Kallen Gray
Photography - Mark Buckingham



Kallen Gray is a Pilates Instructor Student while hustling in the city of gold, Johannesburg.

“I am absolutely a people’s person and tend to see the best in people, even when others refuse to see the beauty in themselves.

My personal goal this year was to grow as an individual as I took the time to get to know myself and accept myself with all my perfections and imperfections.

My goal in life is to be **unstoppable** and the only way to get there is self work.

I have played the violin since I was 12, sketching since I can remember, and I love baking.

One quirky fact about me, is that I sing in the shower.”

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ZAWISH!

Model - Kallen Gray
Photography - Mark Buckingham

THE Z CREATIVE



Model - Kallen Gray
Photography - Mark Buckingham

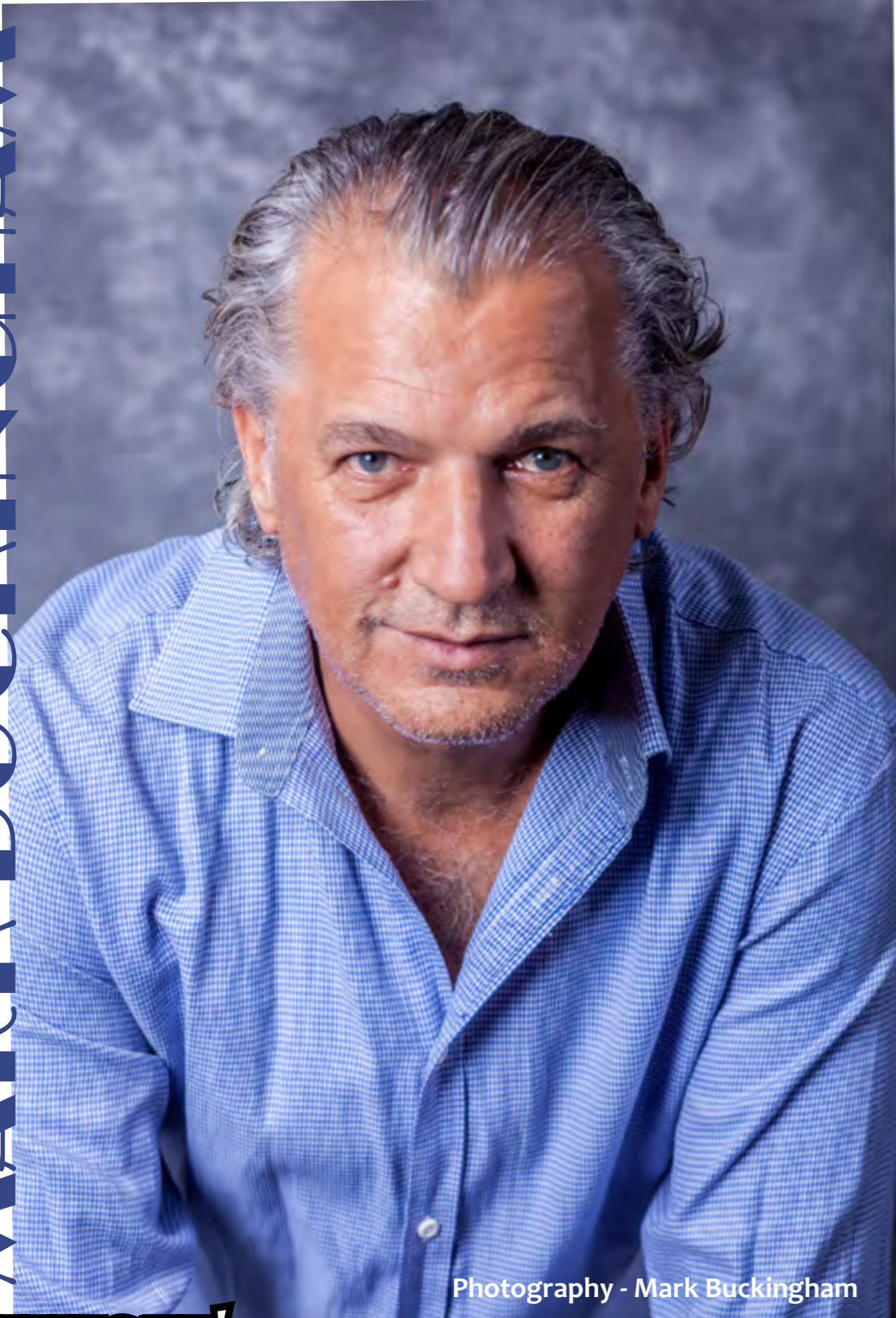


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PRODUCER, DIRECTOR, PRODUCTION DESIGNER, STYLIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER

MARK BUCKINGHAM



Photography - Mark Buckingham

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Mark Buckingham was born into a creative family in the summer of 1969.

His Father - John was always busy with carpentry and welding and very supportive of his boy who found a stronger influence with his mother - Carol, and her talented singing and musical instrument playing; the family would always get together at the grandparents' home and everyone held an instrument from guitars to concertina and accordion and some even spoons...

An event of singalong and performance.

Mark was on stage in front of a large audience at the age of four singing arias like Ave Maria etc. And confident enough to hold his own. He later schooled in guitar performance under the guidance of Johanna Contreras and even sang opera; guided by Dawie Cousin and performed in operettas and choir competitions.

He matriculated at The Art, Ballet and Music School in 1987 and head off to compulsory military service. After basic training, he was selected to an art post at the Shows and Exhibitions division of the military where he was assigned a studio to sit and do fine art paintings and screen printing and sculpting and then he would travel the country to set up exhibitions at various shows.

His Modelling career also kicked off in this creative environment and soon he acquired a camera in 1988 and he was set on his most

satisfying path.

Yes he performed in bands as a bassist and singer and always composed songs under the name of Emerald Jupiter Rain - his channel on YouTube, but his love for fashion photography outweighed...

Mark Buckingham ran a fashion label "AXE" in the early 1990's and photographed talent for many Modeling Agencies and to help place models he even served as a Casting Director.

He worked, and up to current date, very closely with the Global Film Industry as a Producer, Director, Production Designer, Stylist and Photographer to keep talent in the limelight.

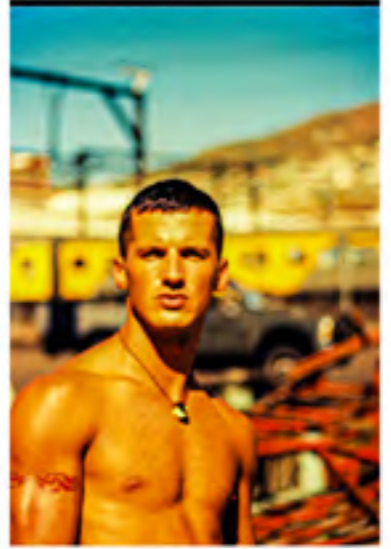
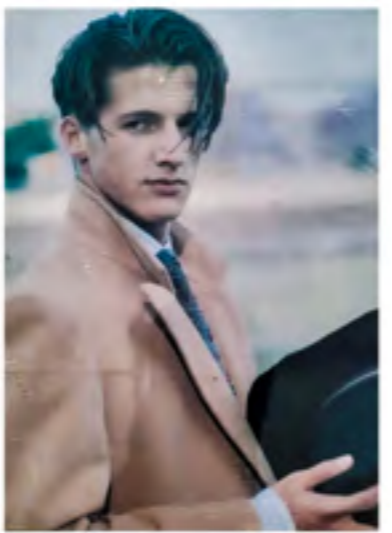
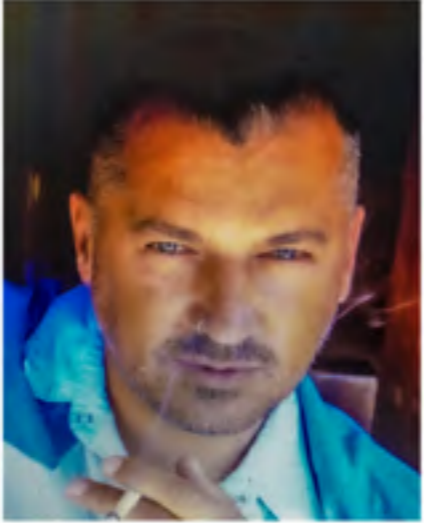
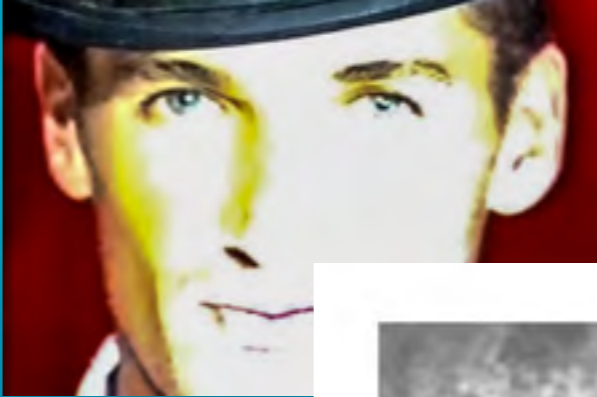
Mark is an associate with a few different Global Fashion Magazines and is a freelancer with Media 24 as a Photo Journalist and a Cinematographer for News 24.

He endeavors to make everyone famous and wants the whole world to become acquainted with one another through pictures of beauty and storytelling. He travels the country to scout for talent and is a key player in artistic development.

"Everyone's enlightened and everyone is a star and I dream to make the whole world confident in themselves".



THE Z CREATIVE



Model - Bevan Thomas
Photography - Mark Buckingham

BEVAN



by Mark Buckingham

MUSIC PRODUCER/DJ



NFVF SAftas

by Mark Buckingham

THE Z. CREATIVE

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PRESS RELEASE

Bevan Thomas, known by his stage name Beviito, is a talented music producer and DJ who has made remarkable strides in his career despite his young age. Born in South Africa, Bevan's passion for music ignited during the unprecedented COVID-19 lockdown in 2020. Since then, he has become a rising star in the industry, leaving an indelible mark on the electronic music scene.

At just 19 years old, Beviito has achieved a level of success that many aspiring musicians can only dream of. His unique musical style blends elements of deep house, melodic techno, future bass, and drum and bass, creating a distinctive sound that captivates listeners around the world. While remaining true to his own artistic vision, Beviito's compositions exhibit a keen understanding of the intricacies of these genres, showcasing his versatility as a Producer.

One of Beviito's notable achievements is the impressive international reach he has garnered through his streaming platforms. With over 40,000 streams, his music has resonated with audiences across different cultures and geographical boundaries. Despite not being signed to a music label, Beviito's independent success serves as a testament to his dedication and talent.

In addition to his prowess as a music producer, Beviito has also made a name for himself as a skilled DJ. He has performed at various venues, ranging from bars and house parties to clubs and small festivals throughout Johannesburg. His ability to curate electrifying sets, blending his own tracks with carefully selected tunes, has earned him a growing fan base and cemented his reputation as an exciting live performer.

While Beviito is primarily self-taught, he has also sought to enhance his skills through formal education. He is currently studying at the esteemed Rise Academy, where he delves deeper into music production and advances his DJing techniques. This commitment to continuous learning and personal growth demonstrates his unwavering dedication to refining his craft and reaching new heights in the industry.

Above all, Beviito is driven by an unwavering determination to succeed in the music industry. With an unyielding passion for his art and an unshakable belief in his abilities, he remains focused on his path to success. Beviito's journey is not merely about fame and recognition; it

is a personal quest to leave an indelible mark on the music industry and connect with audiences on a profound level.

As Beviito continues to hone his skills, push boundaries, and follow his dreams, it is evident that he is destined for great things. With his unique musical style, international appeal, and unrelenting passion, Beviito is poised to become a force to be reckoned with in the world of electronic music. The industry eagerly awaits the next chapter in his promising career, confident that he will continue to forge his own path to success and leave an enduring legacy through his extraordinary music.

Author : Bevan Thomas
Photographer : Mark Buckingham



YOGA INSTRUCTOR

Photographer: Mark Buckingham

Model: Elana Asrai

ELANA ASRAI



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What would your life look like if you made the choice to just absolutely love everything about it right now? To love what you do. How you do it. Where you are. Who you are. I did! And this is what happened.

It didn't feel at the time for me that there was much life I was living after emerging from an extended cocoon, a dark night of the soul, a long and hard struggle overcoming PTSD.

Solitude had become my staple companion, silence- although my practice - was feeling like a tomb.

What I could count on through all of it though was what was inside me. And despite my deep desire to express love for others who just seemed nowhere to be found. I just chose to express love for the sake of expressing love.

I poured it into my morning coffee, into the water in which I bathed, I loved my dishes, my dish rags, my tabletops, even my constantly pawprint splattered floors. I put extra oodles of love into doggy cuddles and slowed down to actually taste the flavour of that standard morning banana instead of swallowing my morning smoothie as my mandatory feeding scheme. I didn't even know what I wanted so I chose to want what I had, and love what I had and what I was doing.

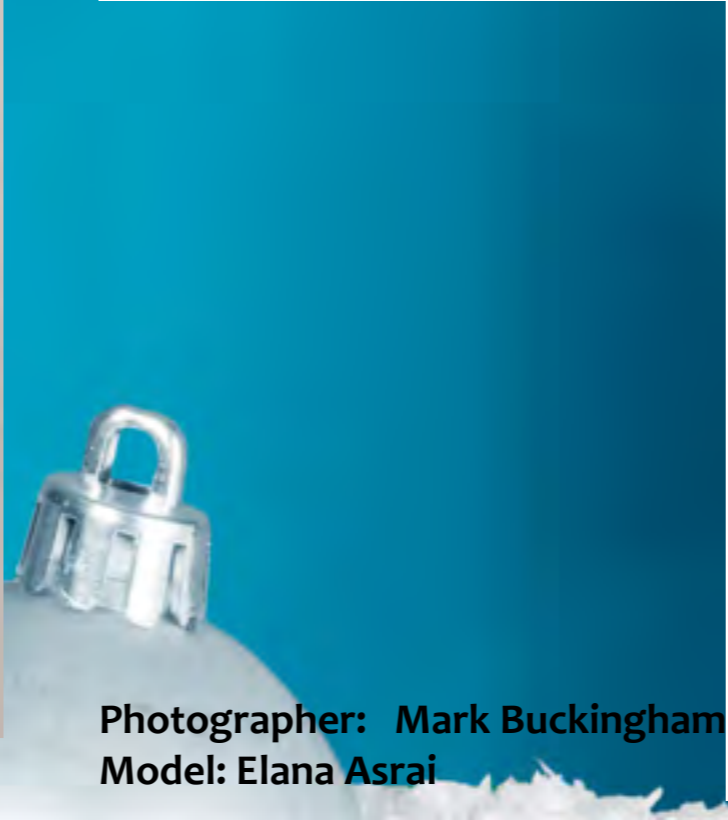
And a fire in me was ignited and passion reentered my world. It pours out of my fingertips, it's in my voice, my step, my work. Creative energy and clarity of purpose has fused into a stable consistent joy of being and expressing. And the world is reflecting back to me the same in the quality of relating, the results of my labours- what is inside you will resonate with those who carry the same fire and love in their souls and magically you will find your people not only arriving but egging you on.

Silence and meditation became my medicine and refuge but had to eventually face the world again remembering that the silence was very healing.

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THE Z CREATIVE



Photographer: Mark Buckingham
Model: Elana Asrai

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FASHION/RUNWAY MODEL

Her name is Gomolemo, 20 years old from Pretoria.

She is a Commercial, Fashion and Runway Model with Womanman Model & Artist Management.

Besides this, she is the founder of DARK SHEROES MELANIN - a campaign to raise awareness against Colourism to help people embrace their skin colour and not feel inadequate for not being of a certain race.

This all started when she was 18 years old - "18-year-old model is fighting the stigma directed towards dark skin males and females by a judgmental society" as quoted in the headline in - Tswane Bulletin Live.

She has currently been chosen as a quarter finalist for MISS WORLD SOUTH AFRICA 2023.

One thing learnt during this journey is that ,it is our uniqueness not similarities that truly make us beautiful, so that is why she had used The MISS TEEN SOUTH AFRICA platform to spread the word and was selected as the FINALIST IN 2021.

"Confidence is not something that can be learned like a set of rules. Confidence is a state of Mind, positive thinking, practice, and knowledge. Confidence is a feeling of well-being, acceptance of your body and belief in your own abilities.

It is so important to be yourself, don't try and change yourself believing that a certain image is a correct one of a model. My name is Gomolemo Mashabe and I stand against Colourism".

*MISS TEEN SA FINALIST 2021

*MISS PROTEA SA CHARITY 2022

*CROWNED EMPRESS WORLD UNIVERSAL BY PROTEA UNIVERSAL



Photographer: Mark Buckingham
Dress Designer: Infinite by Beey Mphulo

Photographer: Mark Buckingham
Dress Designer: Infinite by Beey Mphulo



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JOHANN VAN ROOYEN



ZWISH!

FASHION DESIGNER



NFVF SAftas

Photographer: Mark Buckingham

Fashion Designer: Johann van Rooyen

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PRESS RELEASE

Johann van Rooyen is among the most highly respected, influential and successful designers in South Africa today. The winner of numerous design awards.

Johann van Rooyen a native of Emalahleni, Mpumalanga, South Africa who spent his career at the forefront of fashion after graduating in architecture and later went on studying fashion design.

Johann van Rooyen known for his sophisticated drama, feminine detailing and a modern approach to bridal/ formal wear and bespoke tailoring, has become a popular name on the lips of those in the fashion industry, and with such a unique eye for beauty, proportion and design. His artistic imagination, creative and glamorous design style resulted in a sweeping makeover of the bridal/formal wear and bespoke tailoring industry by launching his eponymous luxury brand label, JvR Couture, in 2003.

Johann van Rooyen's design approach is meticulously engineered and ultimately divergent, self-referential and conceptually grounded, the integrity and energy which drives the label is consistent, but the results are never the same. Innovative thinking combined with meticulous construction and attention to detail has placed JvR Couture at the forefront of South African fashion and rapidly expanded internationally.

Johann van Rooyen had another passion: interior design and architecture and landed him as an acclaimed interior designer, stylist, and artist with local and international clientele on his resume.

Johann van Rooyen is a multifaceted talent who has left his mark on fashion, interior and art scene. He continues to create and innovate, inspiring others with his vision and artistry.

www.jvrcouture.com

Photographer : Mark Buckingham



AFRIKA VROU



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PERFORMANCE POETRY & THERAPEUTIC DRUMMING



Photographer: Mark Buckingham
Artist: Marié Beytell

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Marié Beytell, aka Afrikavrou, is an eclectic, multi-faceted creative being. 25 Years ago she immersed herself in performance poetry as well as therapeutic drumming, dance and percussion with Africa Kotei Djani from Ghana as her main teacher. After her Law Degree at UJ, she created Miracle Productions and became a creative communications consultant assisting many organizations and schools to raise awareness related to Safety, Health & Wellness, Women Empowerment and our Environment. She is also an Afrikaans Cabaret artist, launching Prikkelpot at The State Theatre in 2010 and Stoomstories in 2019.

Her Prikkelpot songs can be listened to on Reverbnation: <https://www.reverbnation.com/mariebeytellakaafrikavrou>

For performances or industrial/ educational drama enquiries email her : afrikavrou@gmail.com or contact her direct: 083 448 4737.

CREDITS:
Photographer: Mark Buckingham



I AM ©Afrikavrou

I am
a reborn
African child
black and white
no divide
masculine and feminine
combined
In Shiva
meets Shakti

DIVINE

I have become

ONE mind
ONE soul
ONE miracle

I have jumped
the great divide
between MYSELF
and I ...

and I survived!

and I am ...

ALIVE !!!

Photographer: Mark Buckingham
Artist: Afrika Vrou

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ZWISIE!



Model: Shalom
Photographer: Mark Buckingham



Biography

Fashion Model
-runway
-Catalogues

Started modeling in 2018
Have participated in a lot of runway shows including Zimbabwe Fashion Week, Johannesburg AFI , Durban Fashion Fair, David Tlale Fashion shows
Shalom has also participated in several private(smaller) shows in South Africa and Zimbabwe e.g. fashion without borders etc

Catalogs:
Clothing brands: David Tlale, Hospital catalogs, Urban Zulu, Magents and other South African local brands, make-up shots.
Music videos both in Zimbabwe and South Africa

Billboard : EVA hair in 2018 - 2019

Ambitions:
-to become a commercial model
-to penetrate the European modeling market. Feature on the biggest fashion magazines and walk on all well known runways such as Paris Fashion week.



Model - Shalom
Photography - Mark Buckingham
Fashion Designer - Nandi Larethi



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Photographer: Mark Buckingham



THE Z CREATIVE

PRESS RELEASE

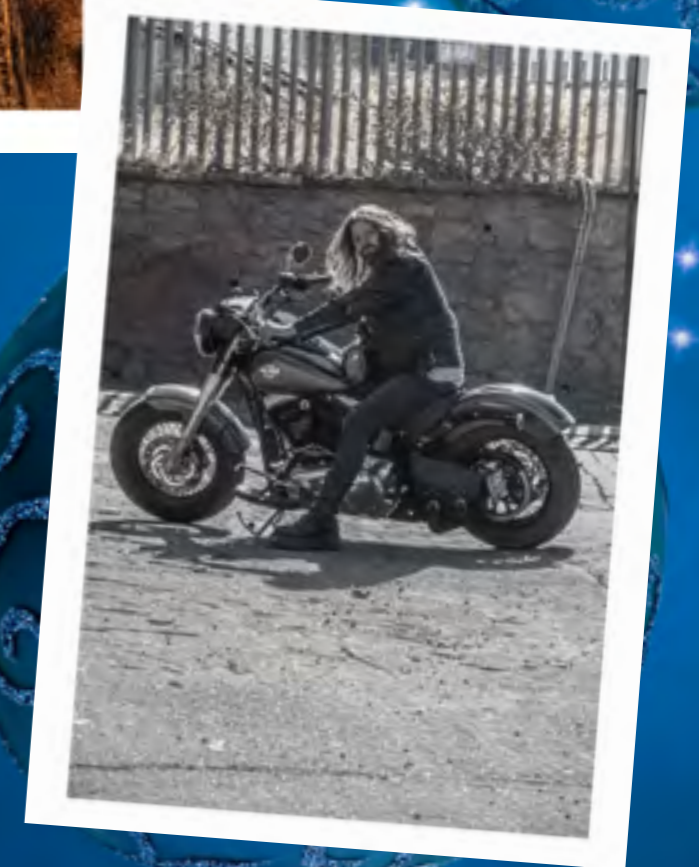
“When I write, I write from another place.
Not my head.
Not my heart
Not my soul.
I write from my higher self.
When I create, I create from a
place of silence where I scream so
hard. A voice for those with no voice.”

His name is Stanley Cierenberg, Word and Voice artist. He writes short stories and tells the world about love and hate, sunshine and rain.

He writes poetry to comfort the lost and reckless. He believes to be brutally honest regardless of how it affects the reader. He rides his motorbike like it is a wild Savanna horse and he feels he becomes the horse as he takes to the open road.
“I cannot be tamed, and I don't want to be”.

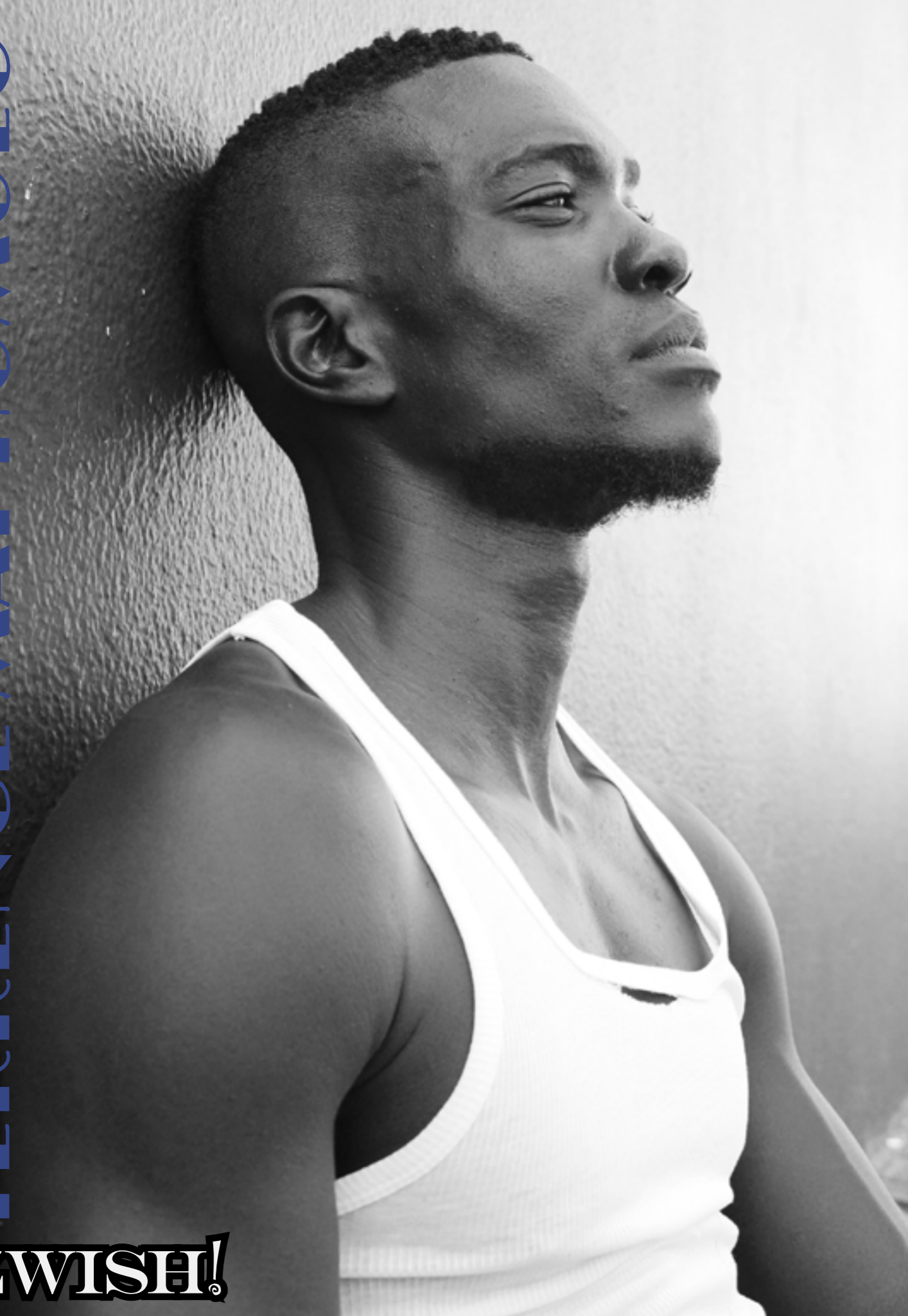
You can find these stories in his books, Vaderland, Moedertaal, Hart van die Granaat and perkAMENT.

“If someone cut my throat one day, and I die, my tattoos will still do the talking. They will tell the stories of Die Briels, of Africana and the love for my country.”
His tattoos tell the stories of suffering, love and pain.
He is a voice for those who do not have.



TERRENCE MAPHUMULO

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MODEL/ACTOR



Photographer: Mark Buckingham
Actor: Terrence Maphumulo

THE Z CREATIVE

PRESS RELEASE

Terrence Maphumulo Story

Terrence Maphumulo is a 32yr old model turned actor hailing from Durban KwaZulu Natal, having worked with some of the biggest retail brands in the country ranging from MRP, Edgars, Markham & other various powerhouses in the retail & commercial markets for almost a decade.

In 2020 Terrence decided to venture into acting and it turned out to be a guided decision, because after having gotten formal training in the arts, the year 2022 would be the launch of his acting career; after having been cast to co-star in the star-studded and biggest drama series in South Africa - currently Shaka iLembe produced by The Bomb Shelter.

That wouldn't be all. In 2023 the thespian also got to work alongside talented brights as he was, once again, cast to co-star in the international drama series King Shaka produced by Fuqua Films & CBS studios.

He says that he believes the future certainly holds much greater opportunities as he envisions himself contributing more towards the art of storytelling at a global standard.



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HIP HOP ARTIST

CHUCKIE - TRO (THE REAL ONES)

THE Z. CREATIVE



Artist - Daniel Jooste

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APEX DONS

1. What is your full name/stage name and profession?

Daniel Jooste/Chuckie, I am a musician.

2. What made you enter this profession?

Growing up in an area like Newlands East, where you are surrounded by negative stereotypes, one has to make a choice between street life or striving for your dream. Music has always been my passion from ever since I can remember.

3. How long have you been doing it?

28 years professionally.

4. What was the most difficult part of this journey?

By far losing a long-life best friend and fellow band member, (RIP Funky Fabian.)

5. What has been the most exciting and/or rewarding moment of this journey?

Touring Internationally & receiving the prestige Honorary award from the city of Durban.

6. What advice can you give to anyone interested in going into this profession?

Always remember, what you want, somebody else wants it more so you have to work much harder in order to achieve it and be successful.

7. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

Timeless music, basically making music that will resonate with generations to come.

8. What do you do to relax?

Nothing a good cup of coffee with a tranquil view can't fix.

9. What are your plans for the future?

To continue to uplift young up and coming talent and also being an ambassador for good authentic music.

10. Do you have any events coming up?

Second international tour is in sight & collaborations with local musicians for national events.



Artist - Daniel Jooste

CHUCKIE-TRO (THE REAL ONES)



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Daniel Jooste/Chuckie - TRO (The real Ones)
For Chuckie It all started about 20 years ago. Together with Paul Ogle, Emlyn Barlow, and Fabian Peters, "THE REAL ONES" better known as TRO was a Newlands East Durban based Hip Hop group formed around the early 90's, with a desire to educate people about life in the streets of an average South African neighbourhood.

TRO took first prize in the Seagrams / Radio Metro African Hip Hop competition in 1995. They went on to release their first effort in 1996 which featured tracks like "Da Bruinfunk", "Catch n Wakeup" and the smash hit song "Hey Owens" The Group was well know across the country for creating their own lyrical genre known as "BRUINFUNK" which is a combination of slang commonly used by certain communities across South Africa. TRO released their 2nd effort under Gallo Records which was Titled "PlayTimesOver" With the loss of a best friend and fellow TRO member in 2001 Funky Fabian, together with record company politics, members started drifting apart and focusing on solo careers which saw the members collaborating with other well known South African artists.

For Chuckie, the transition from band member to solo artist was a smooth one. In early 2002 he started penning 'My Baby' which was to be his first song release as a solo artist since TRO. The song was a mix of R&B, Rap and smooth vocals.

At the same time a compilation was being put together where some of the most talented young stars got their chance to shine. 'My Baby' featured well known South African R&B Artist Verd. The song was added to the cd and 'East Coast Flava' Was born. Over the years he performed with big named South African artists like TKZee, Mandoza, Chiskop, Trompies and Boom Shaka as well as slot to open up for international artists such as Ludacris and Kelly Roland.

In early 2005 Chuckie packed his bags and headed for the UK. Taking some time away from the music industry for a few years to gather his thoughts and try his hand at other business ventures.

It wasn't long before he would return to what he loved and enjoyed doing. In 2009 Chuckie realized that he could not stay

away from his first love, Music. He started buying recording equipment, set up his own studio, put his producing skills to full effect and started producing his own tracks. He then released a series of songs such as "Where I'm from", I Also Want", "Moogoos" "Salute" and a tribute to Fabian titled "Dear Fabian" which he made available to the public for free via social media.

Chuckie returned to South Africa after being in the UK for 6 years and started his own independent Record Label called "Bfoked Nation" which boasts two of Durban's elite MC's, Jet Wentworth and fellow TRO member TSO. After returning to SA there has been an overwhelming amount of requests for TRO and East Coast Flava to perform and for the past few years Chuckie together with some of the fellow members from TRO and East Coast Flava has been on the road performing with each year growing momentum and doing more shows across South Africa and some neighboring countries. 2015 saw TRO embarking on their first international Tour to Australia which they dubbed "AusTROlia" After 2015 Chuckie has released a series of music which has been

received well by his core followers built up throughout his music Career since he started in 1994... "No Flops" Ft Jet Wentworth and TRO partner TSO, "Pressure" ft B. I. P the street anthem "Dusted" ft Biggie and the Ever Popular hip hop song by Riggz who ft Chuckie called "The Way We Choon"... Today you can still find Chuckie and TRO highly active and remains one of the only acts from their era who are still performing live shows...

In 2020 TRO was honored by the City of Durban with the Honoray Award for their contributions to the South African Music industry... There is no doubt that Chuckie has his feet firmly planted in the music industry and will continue to give good quality music with an international sound.

The music is undoubtedly Hip Hop, Rap and R&B but there is no mistaking the Bruin-Funk flow. Since the pandemic TRO has been performing regularly across South Africa with fellow musicians such as Verd, Jae, Riggz, Sir Linho among others.



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FELICIA PILLAY



THE Z CREATIVE

PRESS RELEASE

1. What is your full name/stage name and profession?

Felicia Pillay

2. What made you enter this profession?

A very good fellow comedian pushed me into comedy. He always said I was funny and refused to take no for an answer. He put me onto a show, and I did my first 5 minutes which partly sucked and partly went well. Thankfully I've grown.

3. How long have you been doing it?

Just over 4 years now.

4. What was the most difficult part of this journey?

That females are sometimes judged for talking about things that are perceived to be only allowed for men to joke about. It's unfair.

5. What has been the most exciting and/or rewarding moment of this journey?

There have been so many but my favorite thing about comedy are the relationships I've built with my fellow comedians. We're a family. We push each other to be better, we are each other's biggest support. We want all of us to succeed.

6. What advice can you give to anyone

interested in going into this profession?

Remember to always be yourself, be authentic to who you are, and people respect that.

7. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

There is no secret formula.

My belief is that you work hard. Sometimes a joke might not work today but then you might go home and reconstruct the punchline making it amazing. Time and effort are the most important things. Also, great punchlines. You have to be passionate and keep going.

8. What do you do to relax?

I love reading, I'm quite boring. I'm also addicted to Law and Order.

9. What are your plans for the future?

My plans are to keep pushing boundaries as a female comedian. My ultimate dream is to perform in America. Hopefully soon.

10. Do you have any events coming up?

Not at the moment but you can follow my Instagram account @feliciapillay to get updates on shows.

FELICIA PILLAY INTERVIEW

Felicia Pillay - Trying To Be A Comedian Co; I Owe People Money

Felicia Pillay has been on the comedy scene for a short period of time and is already making strides.

She's performed on the West End in the UK with Masood Boomgaard, Carvin Goldstone's Next Generation, opened for International USA comedian Dan Frigolette's one manshow, had the pleasure of gracing the stage of The Cape Town Comedy Club.

She's also performed at the Suncoast Dome with the Goliath Brothers and Joey Rasdien. Felicia has joined the likes of comedy greats Robbie Collins and Loyiso Madinga on the stage and also opened for 'Robbie Collins' one man show in Johannesburg.

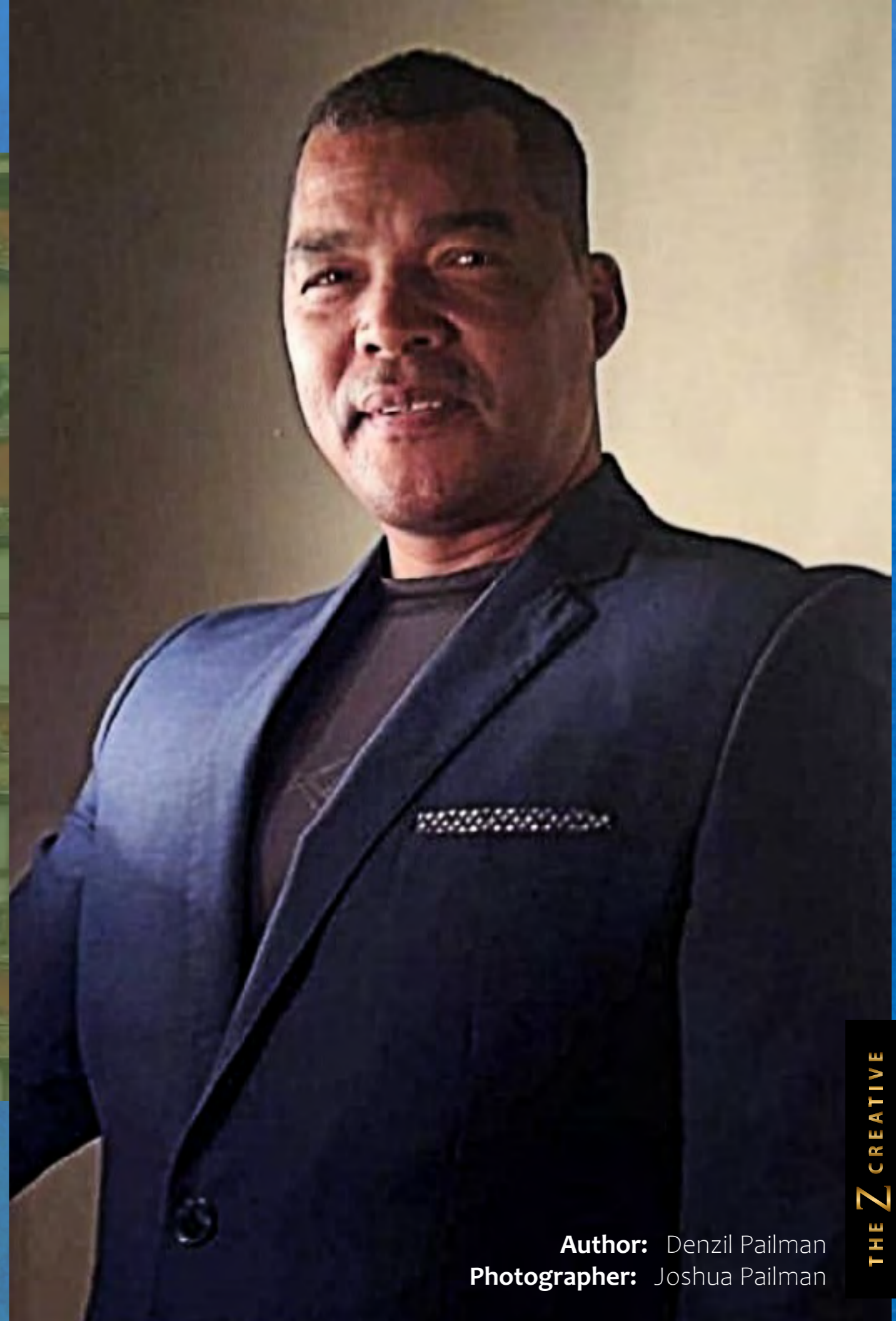
'Felicia' represented Durban when she was nominated for Best Newcomer and won Top Online Female Comedian at the South African Comedy Awards. Quite recently she performed in Cape Town for Savanna where only 20 comedians were chosen from around South Africa to perform. She faced adversity during covid and kept comedy alive by performing online internationally on many occasions with countries such as UK, America, India, to name a few.

Felicia just wants to perform funnies out her rainbow, she draws inspiration from her own life experiences and not afraid to get real, bringing her material alive with her satire and parody style.



AUTHOR

DENZIL PAILMAN



Author: Denzil Pailman
Photographer: Joshua Pailman

THE Z CREATIVE

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PRESS RELEASE

Denzil Pailman, a renowned author known for captivating storytelling and vivid descriptions of Africa and his travels, has announced that he is currently working on three new books.

He has been writing professionally since 2002 and has published several books and novels available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Kobo Books stores. His work can also be found in local libraries in KZN.

Inspired by the works of Wilbur Smith, Denzil Pailman has always been drawn to the power of words to encourage, inform, and inspire positive change. His books often blend elements of romance, action, and mystery, transporting readers into immersive worlds.

"I am thrilled to be working on these new projects.

I hope my readers will enjoy the journey these books will take them on as much as I have enjoyed writing them."

The upcoming books promise to deliver the same engaging narratives and compelling characters that Denzil Pailman is known for. Readers can expect the new books to be released December 2023.

For more information about Denzil Pailman and his work, visit his authors page.

Links:

Amazon: <https://shorturl.at/cgBD9>

Kobo Books: <https://shorturl.at/bfK57>

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Author: Denzil Pailman
Photographer: Joshua Pailman

STUCK AT HOME?



*Read
a
book!*



Operation Rescue

Denzil Pailman

ZWISH!

DENZIL PAILMAN

A LOVING DREAM



THE Z CREATIVE



PRESS RELEASE

1. What is your full name/stage name and profession?

Mmangaliso Mhlongo - Comedian. I am also a Teacher but am not teaching at the moment I am doing comedy full time.

2. What made you enter this profession?

It was a dare from a close friend of mine and I never did it but when he passed away I decided to do it in his honour, little did I know that it would be a start of what I was destined to do.

3. How long have you been doing it?

9 Years.

4. What was the most difficult part of this journey?

Its trying to work your way into being respected for your talent. All I wanted to be when I started this was to be a headline act and do a one man show and now I really feel like I have achieved that.

5. What has been the most exciting and/or rewarding moment of this journey?

It has to be when I did my first one man show and my late Mom attended.

6. What advice can you give to anyone interested in going into this profession?

If this is what you are passionate about then follow that and the money will follow you. Don't do it just because of the money.

7. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

My secret is something I call mirror work and having a joke book. Most comedians avoid doing mirror work and honestly for me, the greats of comedy still do it til this day.

8. What do you do to relax?

I love reading to be honest. I always say reading is basically the equivalent of taking your brain to Virgin Active, its an exercise for your mind.

9. What are your plans for the future?

Definitely to take this gift and show it to the world...so I want to travel the world and do comedy.

10. Do you have any events coming up?

I have shows coming up, but I think by the time this magazine released they will be done.

But 14 October we will be at a huge platform in Suncoast The Globe. Really looking forward to that

I also have a monthly gig where I am joined by other comedians at Pirates Arms, Wilsons Wharf Durban.

INTERVIEW

MMANGALISO MHLONGO - COMEDIAN

Mmangaliso Mhlongo is a stand up comedian that has been dubbed by other comedians as a tornado because of his ability to destroy on stage. He has been in the Comedy Industry for just over 7 years.

In 2015 Mmangaliso hosted the Legendary Barry Hilton's one man show at Umfolozi Casino. He won the Comediology competition for the Best Newcomer Comedian. He has toured with vernac comedian Simphiwe Shembe, Siyanda Maphumalo and Skumba hosting their one man shows. He has appeared twice on Skhumba Hlope's show on Showmax titled "Trippin with Skhumba"/ He has worked with the likes of Dusty Rich, Robbie Collins, Jem Atkins, Carvin Goldstone, Siya Seya, the list is endless.

Mmangaliso had an online show called "Lockdown Life Lessons". He has interviewed many well known South African comedians as well as International comedians. Mario Tory, Kelly Kelz, Thenjiwe, Siya Seya, Jason Collings, Kareem Green, Nonto R, are among the people he has had on his show.

Mmangaliso has since started his acting career and has been in two Feature Films thus far. The Golden Cock: Revenge of Manu by Masood Boomgaard and "Fish's Tale" by Boulevard Films.

Mmangaliso has been on tour 4 times with his one man shows: Mama's Boy, From Black to Worse, Rebirth and Mmangaliso's Birthday Tour. His one man show "Just My Opinion" was filmed at the Playhouse, in Durban.

His one man show "Rose's Rose has Risen" was well received across South Africa.

Mmangaliso is Co-Director of Friends of SA Comedy which uplifts and provides platforms for all artists. He has been uplifting and motivating young comedians new on the scene and providing with the do's and don'ts and the in's and outs.

ART

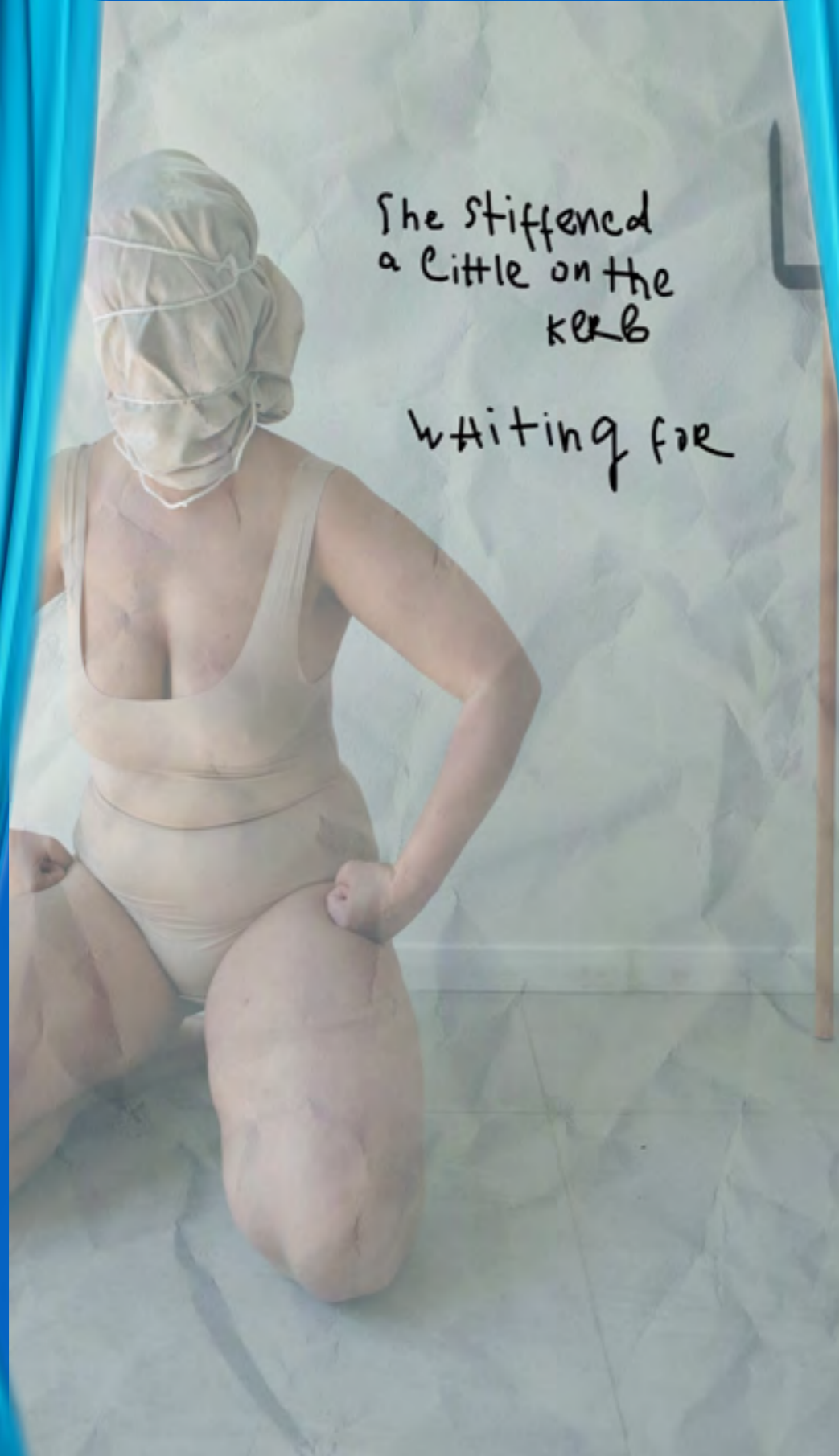
THE Z CREATIVE

she would buy the flowers herself

FIGURES COLLECTION

Mrs. Dalloway

ZWISH!

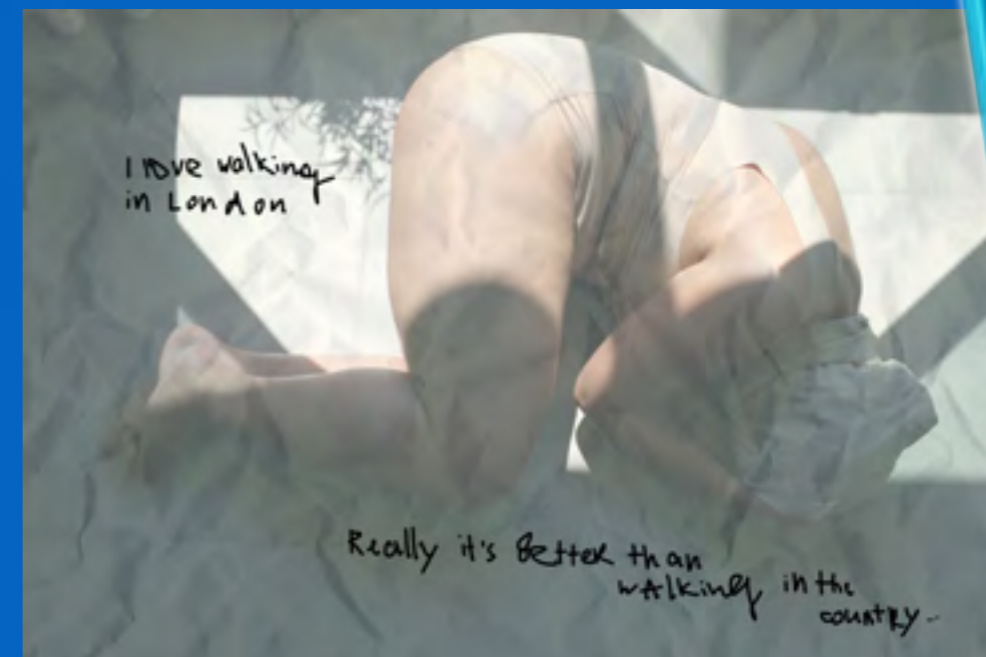


She stiffened
a little on the
kerb

waiting for

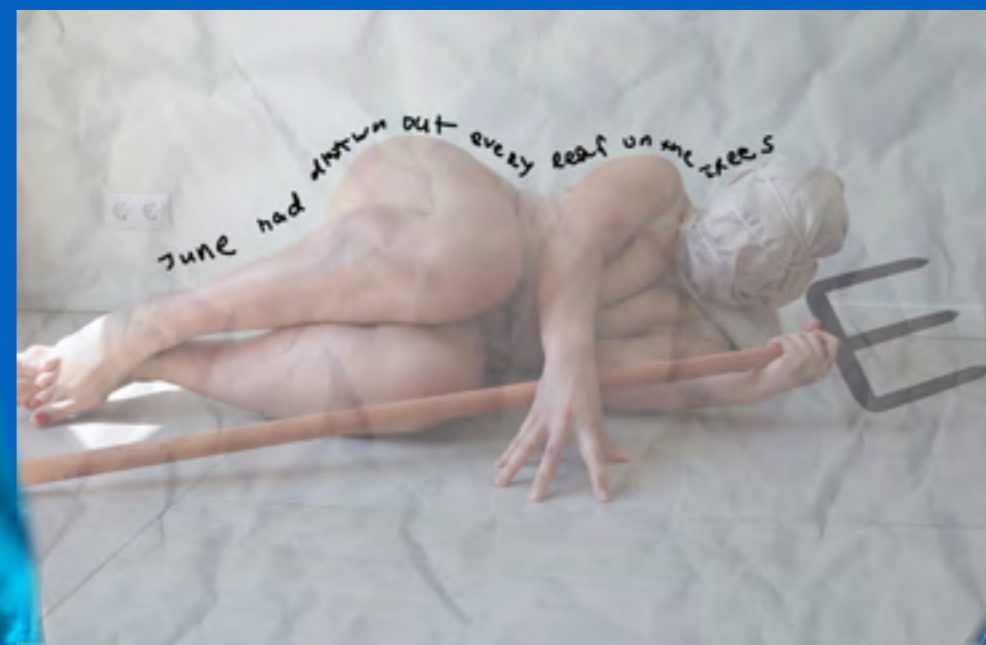


FOR it WAS
the middle of June



I love walking
in London

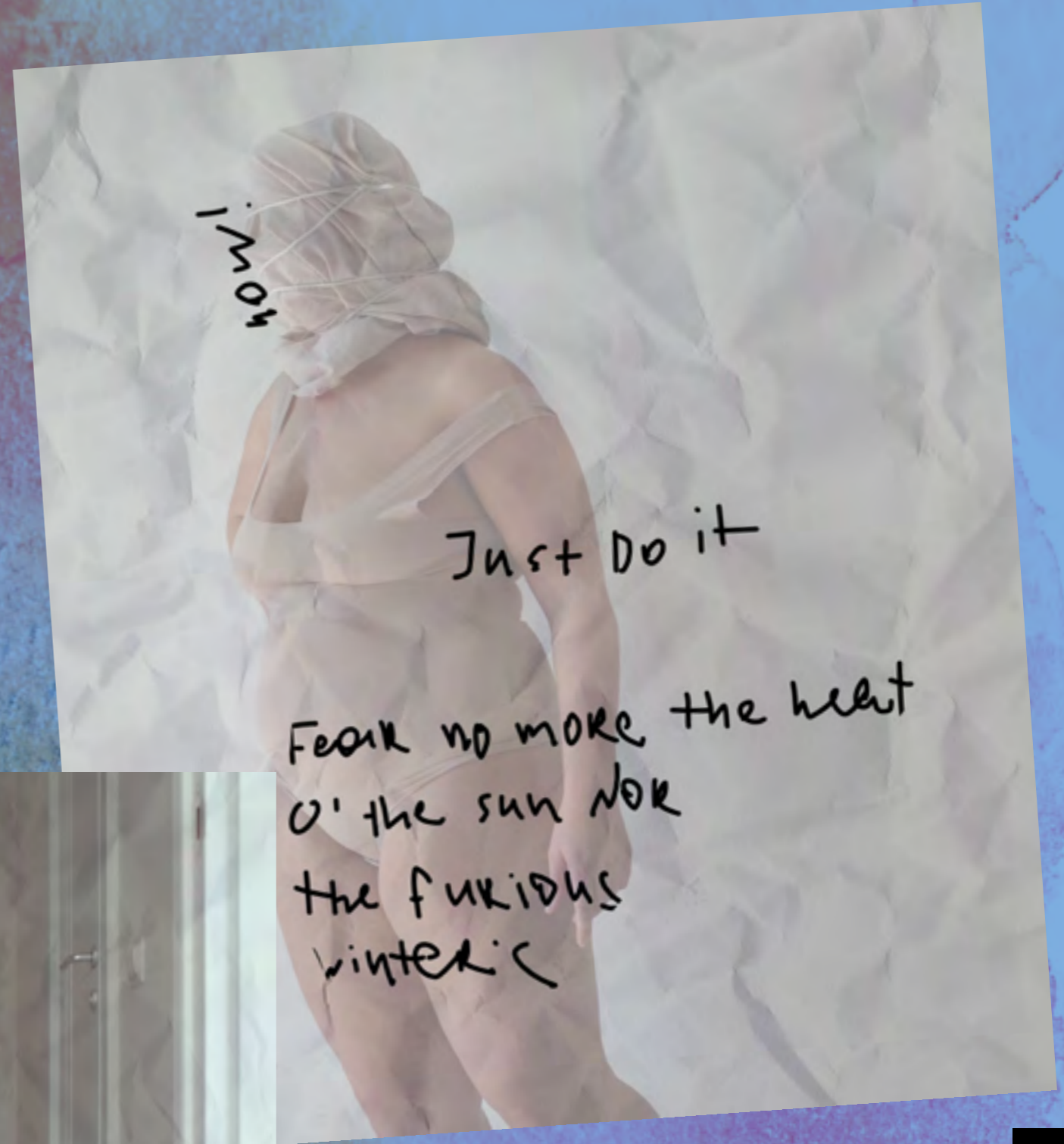
Really it's better than
walking in the
country-



June had thrown out every leaf on the trees



that is all...



now!

Just do it

Fear no more the heat
of the sun nor
the furious
winter



today
is...

shabbat
shalom

ALEXANDRA STEPANOVA

Model: Anna
IG: anuta_pryginkina

Photographer: Alexandra Stepanova
IG: siive
IG: siive_mag

PHOTOGRAPHER

THE Z CREATIVE

SHINE LIKE THE SUN

ZWISH!

Model: Anna
IG: anuta_pryginkina

Photographer: Alexandra Stepanova
IG: siive
IG: siive_mag

ALEXANDRA



THE Z CREATIVE

ZWISH!

Photographer: Lilly Mayakovsky @Sigma
Wardrobe Stylist/Model: Igorsuprunov_tlt_soul_vocal
Wardrobe: Apassionplay T-shirt , Lagos cardigan,
E-ge trousers



ZWISH!

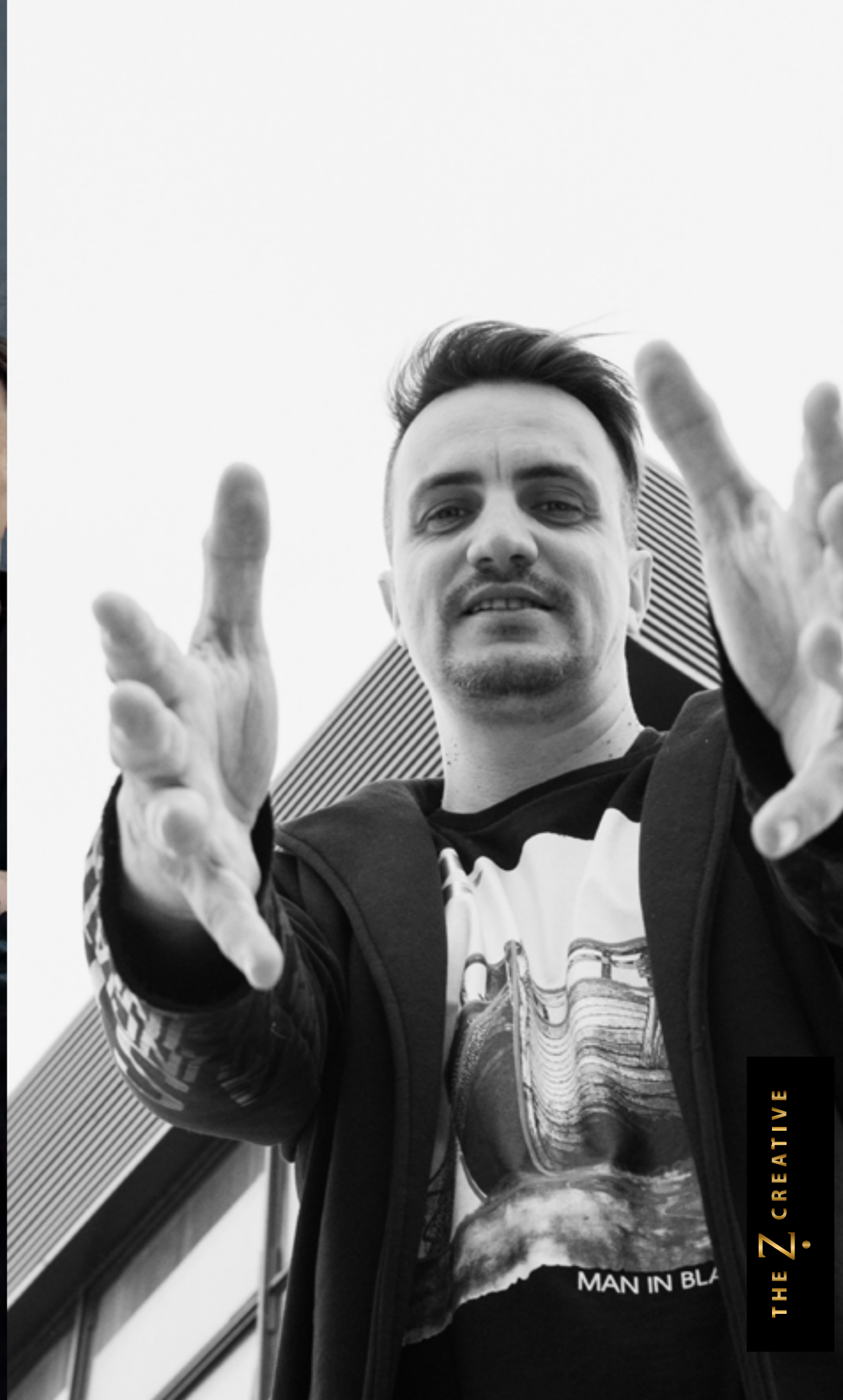
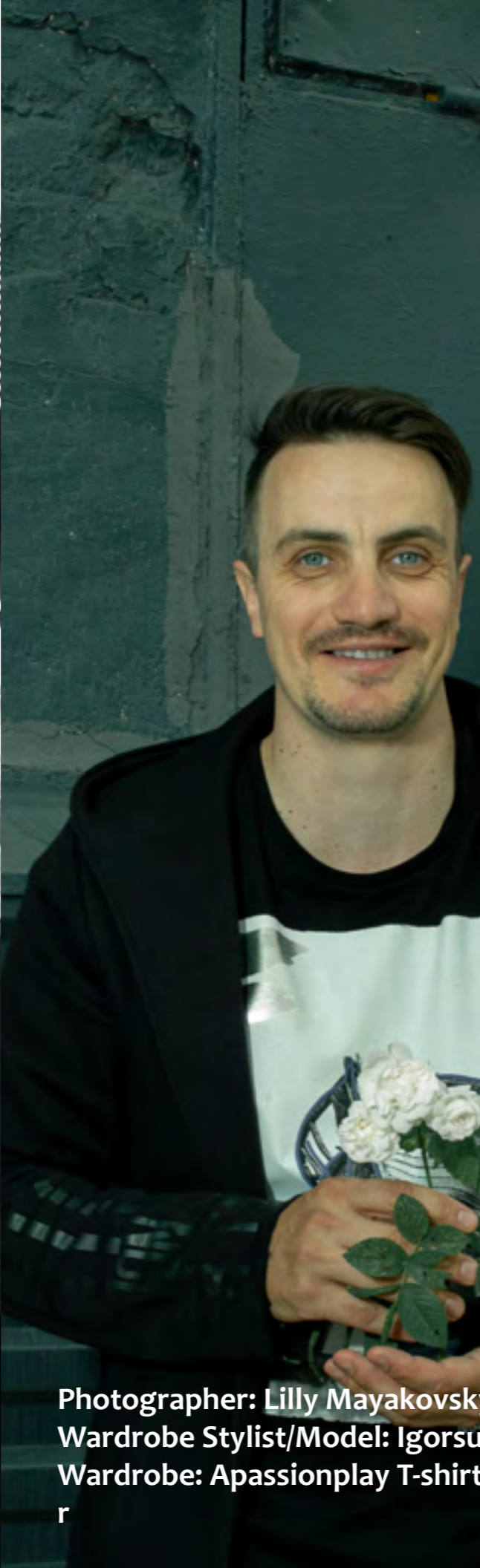
PHOTOGRAPHER



Photographer: Lilly Mayakovsky @Sigma
Wardrobe: Apassionplay T-shirt , Lagos cardigan ,
E-ge trouser

THE Z CREATIVE

LILLY MAYAKOVSKY



Photographer: Lilly Mayakovsky @Sigma
Wardrobe Stylist/Model: Igorsuprunov_tlt_soul_vocal
Wardrobe: Apassionplay T-shirt , Lagos cardigan , E-ge trousers

ZWISH!

THE Z CREATIVE



Annie Botha has taken the Durban comedy scene by storm and people are taking note!

Annie started her career on the 15th December 2020 and this newcomer has since won a Talent Search Competition held at Kudta.

Her first show, she opened for Daryl Williams and Andrew Hughes.

Annie has since graced her "fabulous" self on the stage with some of the biggest names in the industry... Marc Lottering, Carvin H

Goldstone, Richelieu B Beaunoir, Robby Collins, Bexta, Thabiso Mhlongo, Nonto R, Pius Xulu, Suhayl Essa, Mmangaliso Mhlongo and Felicia Pillay, Jason Goliath and Nicholas Goliath to name a few.

Annie loves socializing with her audience, she interacts and keeps her fans in fits of laughter.

Annie was recently dubbed as someone to remember and the next BEST thing to come out of South Africa by Jason Goliath.

Annie has grown in the last year and has even expanded herself into the MC world, with Weddings and Events.

Annie is managed by FOSAC - Friends of SA Comedy and is a valued member of the team and is taking the initiative to learn the in's & out's of the Industry and loves interacting with Audience and Fans alike.

Keep an eye out for this newcomer - pure raw untouched talent.



PRESS RELEASE

MS FABULOUS

1. What is your full name/stage name and profession?

Anneline Botha/ Annie Botha standup comedian. Also known as Ms Fabulous.

2. What made you enter this profession?

To be honest I had lost my job due to covid. I was joking around on Facebook saying I'm thinking of becoming a comedian and my friends somehow took it seriously and sent my name forward to a guy that was looking for new talent. I won the competition!

3. How long have you been doing it?

It's been 2 ½yrs now that I have been doing stand up.

4. What was the most difficult part of this journey?

I'd say my most difficult part is getting on to the stage. I'm a nervous wreck every time I gotta face the audience.

5. What has been the most exciting and/or rewarding moment of this journey?

It has to be the day I met Mr Marc Lottering. He was someone I grew up watching and I remember thinking wow this guy is so awesome at what he does and he was my favorite comedian. So when I

was told that I would appear with him on stage, I could help but get emotional. He was so amazing. I will always treasure that moment.

6. What advice can you give to anyone interested in going into this profession?

My advice would be if this is something that makes you happy then go for it. Be yourself and have fun.

7. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

I'm not sure if I have a secret. I'm just the same person on and off stage. I guess just being myself..

8. What do you do to relax?

Well, I love reading and also going out to sing karaoke. Also I laugh a lot so I'm always relaxed.

9. What are your plans for the future?

I plan on working on myself so that I can give off the best version of me. I plan on achieving more for me as an artist and a mom. I'd also like to travel as well.

10. Do you have any events coming up?

We have shows popping up all the time. Follow me on Instagram Ms Fabulous or Facebook. Annie Botha. You can also follow Friends of SA Comedy on both platforms.



THE FAST

AND

Photographer: Ronaldo Fourie Photography

#Cat360photography

Model: Christy Middleton

Makeup: Chevonne Nicole Dedekind - NVU



THE FURIOUS

ZWISH!

THE Z CREATIVE

CHRISTY MIDDLETON

THE Z CREATIVE



ZWISH!

Photographer: Ronaldo Fourie Photography
#Cat360photography
Model: Christy Middleton
Makeup: Chevonne Nicole Dedekind - NVU

CHANTAL PLOWMAN



ZWISH!

Photographer: Ronaldo Fourie Photography
#Cat360photography
Model: Chantal Plowman
Makeup: Chevonne Nicole Dedekind - NVU



THE Z CREATIVE



THE Z CREATIVE

THE Z CREATIVE

Photographer: Ronaldo Fourie Photo
#Cat360photography
Model: Chantal Plowman
Makeup: Chevonne Nicole Dedekind - NVU

ZWISH!



ZWISH!

Photographer: Ronaldo Fourie Photography
#Cat360photography
Model: Michaela Calitz
Model: Christy Middleton
Makeup: Chevonne Nicole Dedekind - NVU



BONKO KHOZA

ZWISH!

**VOICE OVER
ARTIST/ACTOR**



Actor: Bonko Khoza

THE Z CREATIVE

PRESS RELEASE

1. What is your full name/stage name and profession?

Full name Bonginkosi Khoza. But I go by Bonko Khoza

2. What made you enter this profession?

I was drawn to acting at a very young age. I think I just loved the idea of telling stories. I still do.

3. How long have you been doing it?

Professionally for 12 Years.

4. What was the most difficult part of this journey?

Being content. A lot of the journey can be filled with chasing and wanting to attain more and more. Be it success, fame or money. I think that's the easy part to get caught in the rat race, the difficult part is slowing down, being grateful for the small things and being content with where I am not just in my career but in life.

5. What has been the most exciting and/or

rewarding moment of this journey?

Winning a SAFTA for Best Actor is probably the highlight of my career thus far.

6. What advice can you give to anyone interested in going into this profession?

The best advice I could give is to never stop working at it. Never stop Learning and never stop believing in yourself.

7. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

Personally, it would be a deep belief in God. I believe everything I have is through the grace of God.

8. What do you do to relax?

I spend time with my family. I like spending time at home relaxing.

9. What are your plans for the future?

To become a better actor and have my work make a positive impact in people's lives.

INTERVIEW

BONKO KHOZA is a lead in the Netflix feature HEART OF THE HUNTER directed by Mandla Dube.

Khoza is a South African character actor popularly known for his SAFTA award winning role as Mqhele Zulu on the Showmax original series THE WIFE.

For almost a decade Bonko has been steadily cementing his reputation as a strong emerging force on South African and international screens.

Since his breakout role as Jabz in NECKTIE YOUTH (2015), which earned him a Best Actor Nomination at the Tribeca Film Festival, Bonko has appeared in a number of films and series alongside celebrated local and international talents, with notable roles in THE MAURITANIAN (2021) with Jodie Foster and Benedict Cumberbatch and THE WOMAN KING (2022) with Viola Davis.

Today Bonko is also one of South Africa's sought after Voice over artists, he's worked with top brands locally and internationally.

**ACTOR/PRODUCER,
CREATIVE ENTREPRENEUR**

ENYINNA NWIGWE



Actor: Enyinna Nwigwe

ZWISH!

THE Z CREATIVE

PRESS RELEASE

1. What is your full name/stage name and profession?

Enyinna Nwigwe, often called Yinna.

2. What made you enter this profession?

I like to call myself the accidental actor. My first take on movies was purely by accident, I call it serendipity. The bug bit hard & I went on to hone my craft from then on, block by block.

3. How long have you been doing it?

Been at it for 15 years.

4. What was the most difficult part of this journey?

At first, it was the uncertainties around landing that next gig and when. Then came the strain on relationships, constantly on the road for work.

5. What has been the most exciting and/or rewarding moment of this journey?

Traveling the world doing what I love, meeting amazing people and experiencing various cultures

is such a blessing.

6. What advice can you give to anyone interested in going into this profession?

Be intentional.

7. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

A lot of factors I can point to, dedication for one and great relationships, just to mention a few.

8. What do you do to relax?

I enjoy a good game of tennis & also enjoy deep sea fishing.

9. What are your plans for the future?

I'm looking to do more work internationally in both acting and producing capacity.

10. Do you have any events coming up?

Looking forward to a big announcement as host of a recently acquired Sony pictures franchise in Nigeria. Clue: it is popularly The Greatest Game Show of all time.

INTERVIEW

ENYINNA Nwigwe is a Nigerian Actor, Producer, and Creative Entrepreneur.

He is best known for playing Nonso in THE WEDDING PARTY and playing Tamuno in BLACK NOVEMBER.

Nwigwe began his career as a print and runway model before transitioning to professional acting.

His first feature was in a 2004 film, WHEEL OF CHANGE, after which he went on to act in over 30 films as a lead or supporting character in works like COLD FEET, COUPLE OF DAYS, BABY STEPS, BADAMASI, EAGLE WINGS, LIVING IN BONDAGE, BOUND, and THE ORATORY.

He has also acted in such US films as THE AMERICAN KING, WHEN LOVE HAPPENS and AMERICAN DREAM.

Recently, Nwigwe had a lead role in the film WHAT NO ONE KNOWS (2023) which won Best Indie Feature Film at Cannes World Film Festival.

PRESS RELEASE

1. What is your full name/stage name and profession?

My name is Natse Jemide. I'm an actor, artiste and model.

2. What made you enter this profession?

I stumbled into it to be honest. I was trying to figure out who to be and the only way I knew how to do that was to follow what I enjoyed. I loved clothes so I started modeling. I loved films so when an opportunity to make them came my way I grabbed it with both hands. I love music so I make music. At a point I realized I could make a life out of them and I never looked back.

3. How long have you been doing it?

Professionally 3-4 years..

4. What has been the most exciting and/or rewarding moment of this journey?

So far, definitely seeing my first Netflix Original, Far From Home, come out. The reception was amazing and it really justified to me that I was on the right path.

5. What advice can you give to anyone

interested in going into this profession?

Practice. Work constantly. Worry less about opportunities and focus on improving yourself. Time and chance happen to all men, you just need to be ready.

6. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

The key for me has been taking risks. Being brave enough to do things that sometimes have no clear path to them. People always want answers but sometimes you just have to jump in. I'd say my ability to have faith in the uncertain has served me very well.

7. What do you do to relax?

I work out, watch movies, listen to music and connect with loved ones.

8. What are your plans for the future?

I want to be a leader in my field in whatever way I can. I just want to keep pushing boundaries. Hopefully I get to a point where I can open exponentially more doors for others.

9. Do you have any events coming up?

No, nothing at the moment. But stay tuned!
Clue: It is popularly The Greatest Game Show of all time.



NATSE JEMIDE is an actor, model, singer, and Entrepreneur from Delta State, Nigeria.

Natse is known for his role as "Reggie" in the NETFLIX series FAR FROM HOME.

As a model, Natse has walked for international fashion brands such as Giorgio Armani, Christian Colorado, Orange Culture Nigeria during the Milan Fashion Week, New York Fashion Week, and Arise Fashion Week.

NATSE JEMIDE

THE Z CREATIVE



PRESS RELEASE

1. What is your full name/stage name and profession?

My name is Wanda Banda. I'm an actress.

2. What made you enter this profession?

Sometimes it all just feels like one blob, and I sit with myself like, "okay Wanda but where was the beginning?" - Here's the thing, I'm undoubtedly led by my intuition, and as soon as I allowed myself to trust it, it's saved my life over and over again. I find myself making decisions, not really understanding the full picture but feeling so convicted and trusting that. So, let's track back together for a second. I would take part in our high school's annual Play Festival; I believe this was my introduction to the art of acting specifically. I loved it and eventually took drama as one of my official subjects. I later went on to major in theatre and performance studies at The University of Cape Town. Now I wouldn't say I knew exactly what I wanted to do with this degree, but it was the only course I was willing to take because nothing else made sense to me, it was performance or nothing. I didn't finish acting school, but ironically when I left was the first time, I took practical steps in pursuing my acting career because I knew I was neglecting a huge part of my artistic expression. The Woman King was a very pivotal moment for me because as terrifying as it was and sometimes still is, it was the first time I allowed myself to confidently say YES to being

an actor. Before that I was pursuing this dream but a huge part of me didn't fully feel "equipped" to live it out in reality which I don't think is true but unfortunately that's what fear and imposter syndrome can do.

3. How long have you been doing it?

I've always been a performer. My family is pretty social and growing up we were encouraged to dance at gatherings. I knew if I shut it down, I'd get showered with money once I entered the circle so that was great motivation, and I'd do just that! But upon reflection I can observe my genuine love for entertainment. I have pictures of my 6th birthday party where I was shutting it down on the dance floor, I simply wanted to do just that, entertain. This must have been my introduction to performance...at home, in those circles. As I got older, I started tapping into my musicality. I sang... a lot, mostly through choir. I love group work, I love community and mostly I love music, and choral singing involved all these elements. I would go on to sing under the direction of acclaimed conductor Hendrik D. Looek, in The Tygerberg Children's Choir and later André vd Merwe, in the renowned Stellenberg Girls Choir. In the world of choral music, these were incredibly prestigious choirs that took me on an enormous musical journey that essentially changed my life. I believe this is where I truly fell in love with performance as a whole.

ACTRESS

THE Z CREATIVE

WANDA BANDA

Wanda Banda is a Zambian-South African Actress. She is best known for her role as Young Nansica in THE WOMAN KING (2022).

Banda made her acting debut as "Life" in THE STORY OF A BAKED BROWNIE short film (2020).

Wanda is a passionate advocate for social change and encourages necessary conversations that promote inclusivity and diversity in the industry and society all together.

Actress: Wanda Banda

INTERVIEW

4. What was the most difficult part of this journey?

I've really struggled with anxiety in recent years, and it can make navigating an industry like mine rather challenging. There are just so many different things to think about, and stress about, and laugh about and dream about and be excited about. It can get overwhelming. I feel like right now I'm such a sponge which is great cause I have a lot to learn, but I also just have to remind myself sometimes that I don't have to take everything in and to be gentle with myself. I've also had to and continue to fight the impostor syndrome because whew! What a buzz kill. Alas, I'm abundantly blessed with an incredible support system that I can lean on when things get a bit crazy as they naturally do.

5. What has been the most exciting and/or rewarding moment of this journey?

Definitely when we finally shared The Woman King with the world. I mean this was my first film and it premiered at The International Toronto Film Festival, which was a dream come true and being there with everyone was too! It then went on to lead Box Office charts, I mean the reviews were just exhilarating. Honestly the role of Young Nansica changed my life, but what stood out for me and makes me so incredibly excited till this

day is witnessing what all of this has meant for my peers, especially witnessing the collective realization of "Oh! We can do it too" like, Hollywood is not this big far place that's untouchable. I am so honoured to be in a position where my work can inspire. It excites me so much knowing that young black girls all over Africa, girls that look like me can watch The Woman King and see themselves in that mirror.

6. What advice can you give to anyone interested in going into this profession?

7. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

(6+7 both answered below)

I think we need to have more honest conversations around the journey behind success or what we view as success right. I often get asked for "The Steps", how do you "make it" essentially and I let out a soft giggle because for artists I don't think there is a one-way ticket to success. For me, it's been a long journey of trial and error and honestly behind my personal successes lie a plethora of disappointments, redirections and many nos. So, the first piece of advice I'd give to anyone interested in pursuing performance is that they have to release attachment to "making it" immediately.

Of course, sometimes it happens that way, but it can take a lot of auditioning and putting yourself out there, believing in yourself first before someone else does and maintaining consistency before you get that role that changes your life perhaps. I think that's the blockage because our journeys as artists/creatives are so vast in how they come to be. It's a tad bit tricky because it feels quite abstract right, but I do think there are tools out there that lead us somewhat in the right direction. And that's where the practical part comes to play. Whether that's joining an agency or getting someone to manage you, it's important to enter that world and be in the orbit of the industry. Once you start auditioning, and getting a feel of this new world, the puzzle slowly starts putting itself together, and I believe that's how our journey's become unique. Lastly, I'd say it's important to remain authentic to oneself as you

pursue your craft...there can never be another you.

8. What do you do to relax?

I have solo listening parties a lot. I enjoy making playlists and pairing them with my photography. I can do this for hours. Music is truly one of my healers. I also love me a good spa day!

9. What are your plans for the future?

I'd love to work with more African filmmakers and expand my foundation at home. There's nothing like making your people proud. With that being said, I plan to continue reaching for the stars and going global.

10. Do you have any events coming up?

They're confidential so none that I can speak on at the moment, but definitely stay tuned!

MANAGER/PRODUCER

STEVEN ADAMS



ZWISH!

THE Z CREATIVE

PRESS RELEASE

Award winning Manager/Producer Steven Adams is a Founding Partner at Alta Global Media where he represents international media companies and talent.

Adams is a producer on the Netflix Original adaptation of Roger Guenveur Smith's solo performance piece RODNEY KING and the Peabody Award winning A HUEY P NEWTON STORY for Starz, both directed by Academy Award winner Spike Lee.

Adams recently collaborated on the marketing of 2 seasons Spike Lee's hit series Netflix SHE'S GOTTA HAVE IT, and the Academy Award winning BLACKKLANSMAN.

Adams served for 4 years as a VFX Executive Producer with Paris-based VFX house BUF. His credits there include such Academy Award winners as James Cameron's AVATAR, Ang Lee's LIFE OF PI, THOR for Marvel Studios, as well as GREEN LANTERN, GREEN HORNET, Stephen Sommers' ODD THOMAS, and Tim Burton's DARK SHADOWS.

Steven was also VFX Executive Producer for French VFX house Digital District whose credits include The Academy Award winning features THE ARTIST & THE INTOUCHABLES.

As a partner in Luna Ray Media, Adams produced the Peabody Award winning A HUEY P NEWTON STORY, directed by Spike Lee, the first Starz original Production.

Other indie credits with Luna Ray include GOD'S WAITING LIST, JUSTICE and BURNING SHADOWS, and the Sundance indie pilot IT'S NOT ABOUT JIMMY KEENE.

Television credits also include 3 seasons as Consultant on THE CULTURE CLASH SHOW. Adams previously served as President of FilmPro Finance, consulting for such international film finance based clients as Bloomberg/Cite and its predecessor the Atlas Film & TV Finance Summit, Film Production Capital, and various global film commissions and festivals.

INTERVIEW

An accomplished host, Adams moderates panels at the Motion Picture Academy Content London and Cannes and co-produced and hosted the web series Show Me The F\$#!ing Money: How to Invest, Raise Finance, and Recoup Money in the Film Business, featuring interviews with over 150 top names in the world of Film Finance. He is also a frequent public speaker at NATPE, Sundance, Toronto, amongst many others.

Steven began his career at the Paradigm Talent and Literary Agency. He is a member of the Producers Guild of America, the Television Academy, Advisory Board member Catalyst Content Festival, Content London and the Los Angeles Art Association Advisory Board and serves as Board Ambassador for the Blackhouse Foundation, an official partner of the Sundance Institute.

Upcoming projects include:
THE GOAT LIFE (Blessy, 2023)

Recent Press:
<https://eurweb.com/2023/alta-global-media-a-conversation-with-founders-steven-adams-and-theo-dumont-photos/>
<https://variety.com/2023/film/global/bitpix-tv-myco-development-fund-hollyshorts-1235618705/>
<https://www.c21media.net/department/big-picture/i-feel-its-my-mission-to-uplift-and-educate-others/>
<https://variety.com/2023/film/news/hollyshorts-film-festival-2023-selection-1235673204/>



THE
GUARDIAN

YOUR ONLY SAFEGUARDING PARTNER

#SaferTogether

MARC HARDWICK

ZWISH!

THE Z CREATIVE

PRESS RELEASE

1. What is your full name/company name and title/profession?

Marc Hardwick / The Guardian / Managing Director / Specialist Child Abuse Investigator.

2. What made you enter this profession/establish your company?

I started as a SAPS member of the then Child Protection Unit which is now called FCS.

3. How long have you been doing it/been in business?

25 years working in Child protection. Guardian started in 2009.

4. What was the most difficult part of this journey?

There have been many challenges, emotional, physical, financial. Running a business isn't easy and this field is very emotionally taxing. I'd have to say the greatest challenge is the fact that people, parents, schools, sports clubs, live in the space of "It won't happen to me" and changing that mindset is extremely difficult.

5. What has been the most exciting and/or rewarding moment of this journey?

There have been many wins along the way, but I think self-satisfaction after getting a conviction combined with the gratitude of a survivor probably tops most of the highs.

6. Please elaborate on safety advice and steps that need to be taken to be The Guardian-approved.

This is quite a difficult question. Firstly, we're

referring to safeguarding not safety. Safety is more of a tick box. Setup evacuation processes, make sure fire hydrants work. Safety is generally protection from the environment. Safeguarding is creating structures and reporting mechanisms that reduce the possibility of toxic relationships developing such as bullying, sexual harassment, sexual assault, inappropriate online and real-world relationships, grooming etc. Safeguarding isn't an action, it's a process. It's changing the culture of an environment. Only those who commit to changing the culture will truly safeguard the vulnerable. Doing clearances and education and having policies are vitally important but they become window dressing unless someone takes responsibility for changing the culture of the industry or environment. It can't happen overnight. The solutions mentioned above only become effective if safeguarding in the organisation becomes "Sexy".

7. What advice can you give to anyone interested in going into this profession?

Doing what we do isn't rewarding in the traditional context. There's no award for the best Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO). Being a DSO won't make you popular, and if you are genuinely effective, genuinely driven to making a change, you will probably "piss people off" when you implement those changes.

MANAGING DIRECTOR / SPECIALIST CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATOR

MARC HARDWICK

Successful safeguarding means that there are effective safeguarding strategies and the vulnerable are affected less by any level of abuse, and when no one is abused no one knows you exist. When something does go wrong and it does end up on your desk, you cannot share any details. There is no accolades for being an amazing DSO, other than the fact that "They are safer because of you". They probably don't and never will know it, but if going to bed knowing that the vulnerable are safer because of you, and that gets you up in the morning, then this work may be a consideration.

8. What is the secret to your success (if you are willing to share)?

My success? I don't know if I have achieved that. I believe and pray that I am steering The Guardian on the right track, but unless the number of cases against the vulnerable starts reducing, I feel like we are just putting out fires. There was a time when I chased paedophiles and those that hurt children. I feel I got quite good at it and

I still do it, but as I have gotten older, I believe that catching those who hurt the vulnerable (Children, women, disabled, minorities etc.) is second prize. It is vital, don't get me wrong, justice is vital, but stopping those that want to abuse before they abuse, is for me, a greater vision, and we're still working really hard on finding that formula.

9. What do you do to relax?

I don't think I've been asked that before. I want to say I don't understand the question, but that seems facetious. I think trying spending time with my family, but that is really difficult.

10. What are your plans for the future?

To reach as many schools, sports clubs, churches, mosques, synagogues, hotels, restaurants, modelling agencies, events etc. as possible, and work at changing their mindset around safeguarding in the hope that they implement safeguarding strategies that will change their culture, and if I get it right, hopefully this world won't need someone like me in the future.



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