



Dear Teachers and Supporters of Jongosi

The 31st Hilton Arts Festival is proud to announce the programme for this year's youth programme on 11 August 2023.

Thank you for deciding to bring a group of your pupils to Jongosi this year. I am sure everyone will all have a blast! This is a long document, but contains all you need to know. It is important to remember these details:

Julia for bookings and payments: julia@hiltonfestival.co.za

Sue for additional info regarding content / suitability of productions: clarence@icon.co.za

This letter is to help you make choices and to prepare your pupils for what they are going to see.

It is an internationally recognised and documented fact that exposure to, and involvement in, the arts results in happier, more productive, and balanced adults who are in high demand in the job market. With this in mind, Jongosi aims:

- To introduce young people to quality theatre of all genres;
- To teach them that theatre entertains, educates and provokes discussion;
- To provide arts related activities / workshops between the shows they will be seeing;
- To make the youth of today, the audiences of tomorrow.

This letter is to help you make choices and to prepare your pupils for what they are going to see.

The following productions have been selected as they represent a wide range of subject matter and style of theatre. All are suitable for high school learners. Certain productions will benefit from a quick lesson in the week preceding Jongosi. This will enhance your pupils understanding and enjoyment. We have more primary schools than normal this year and strongly suggest primary schools opt for **Isidlamlilo, Horn of Sorrow and The Meaning of Movement.** See Sue's comments at the end of each description and make your own assessment, depending on the sophistication of your group.

LINE ONE

09H00: ISIDLAMLILLO

09H30: KAFKA'S APE, IMPOSSIBLE, MY WEIGHT & WHY I CARRY IT

LINE TWO

12H00: MAMBA –PROUDLY SA, HOME AFFAIRS, HORN OF SORROW, THE MOON LOOKS DELICIOUS FROM HERE

LINE THREE

14H00: MY WEIGHT & WHY I CARRY IT

14H30: ISIDLAMLILLO, KAFKA'S APE, THE MEANING OF MOVEMENT, , LAY DOWN A BEAT*, BE A POPSTAR*, MARIMBA MASTERCLASS*

*These 3 workshops are available on line 3 and will also be available at 10h45 and 13h15. Limited to 15 learners per session.

Isidlamlilo runs for 100 mins without an interval. All others vary from 50 to 70 minutes.

In the times between shows there is a myriad of interesting stuff to do, all scheduled at 10H45 – 11H45 and 13H15 – 14H00. Please see the end of this document for these details. There is no booking necessary for these. All are welcome on a first come first served basis.

You will notice that there are strong themes running through this selection of work. Vitally important are productions embodying the sheer joy of comedy, wonder and entertainment. Themes of gender fluidity, transformation, women's rights, the current state of the SA nation and urgency to protect the environment prevail. This did not happen by chance. It is a reflection of the issues facing the youth. As a result, people in the arts industry are creating shows around these topical issues.

BOOKING PROCEDURES

1. Bookings and enquiries via email only: julia@hiltonfestival.co.za.
2. Reservations can only be held for a few days so it is first come first served, whereupon you will be issued with an invoice. We accept neither cancellations nor refunds after invoice. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER INVOICING.** Full payment is required within 7 days of invoice. Additional tickets may be booked depending on availability. Venue capacities vary so book early.
3. Cost is R460 per head which gives access to three productions (one on each line) as well as arts related activities in between the formal shows, the craft market, the visual art exhibitions and the numerous food outlets. It gives learners the chance to socialise and discuss what they have seen.
4. Please be at Hilton College by 09H00 at the latest – please take into consideration the state of the N3 and travel time. If you have booked for the first performance of Isidlamlilo, you need to arrive by 08H30.
5. On arrival, teachers please go directly to the Box Office. Teachers, please ensure your pupils know which venues to go to. It is up to the teachers to ensure they get to

their venues on time. Due to the nature of festivals, should a production for some technical reason start a little late, please do not leave the venue area as **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE PERMITTED INTO THE VENUE AFTER THE DOORS HAVE CLOSED.**

6. Bookings for the rest of the MAIN festival open in mid-July via www.hiltonfestival.co.za and Webtickets.

7. Please would teachers give students a thorough briefing on theatre etiquette!

PRODUCTIONS – LISTED ALPHABETICALLY

HOME AFFAIRS (Memorial Hall)

Two men. A government department. A crisis. Brought together by the great unifier, loadshedding. Forced to talk about more than the weather and the state of power in the country, they find that they might have more in common than they initially imagined. Or maybe not. Either way, it all comes down to the light bulb. How many South African men will it take to fix it?

Home Affairs is a new South African comic-drama about two men stuck in circumstances and a country undergoing a crisis of its own.

Starring Sello Ramolahloane (*The Wife, The Black Door, Legacy*) and Lawrence Joffe (*Blacksails, Outlander, Isidingo*); written and directed by Michelle Douglas.

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: Many years ago the much loved Ellis Pearson said that in order to make an audience engage with an important and serious subject, it is vitally important to make them laugh first. This is what this does!!

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZN3JEVZQCGYhQ6R3ULPm9InEYKhhyLVGui7>

HORN OF SORROW (Falcon Garden or SAB Festival Marquee if wet weather)

Ubejane! Learn about the plight of the rhino and the vital importance of saving our environment from further destruction. This play involves high energy physical theatre and transcends all language barriers.

Telling the story of the plight of the rhino, it is seen, very comically, from the perspective of a Vulture, as well as from the point of view of poachers and local communities who

see poaching as a means to earn money, disregarding its destruction, not only of South Africa's natural heritage, but also the fatal damage to the tourist industry.

Horn of Sorrow has an illustrious history. Public and critical acclaim, as well as countless performances world-wide, have garnered it many awards.

The current production features Menzi Mkhwane, Mpilo "Straw" Nzimande, Asanda Khathi, Mthokozisi Zulu, Nkosikhona Dube and Kaylee McIlroy. Directed by Brendan Grealy.

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: Your pupils will love this as it will make them laugh while teaching them a vital message. It is a superb example of physical theatre and the concept of "poor theatre". **I recommend every single learner at Jongosi needs to see this very important piece of theatre.**

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZOUumVZujHOxdL9EpBq9lbg5ydvrX6RlmjX>

IMPOSSIBLE (SAB Festival Marquee)

What you will see is quite literally impossible to believe!

Brendon Peel is a multi award-winning performer and is internationally recognised as a rising star in the art of magic and illusion. His performances have been witnessed by millions of people from around the world. Most notably from his highly successful performance on "Britain's Got Talent" where he wowed the judges and even ended up making the BGT history books as one of the craziest acts ever seen on the show. Brendon is also known for starring in the Travel Channel's brand new TV show, "Magic Caught on Camera" where he featured alongside some of the top magicians and mentalists in the entire world. His LIVE award-winning stage shows are filled with mind-blowing mentalism and psychological illusions and always guaranteed to entertain and engage with his audience. His stage shows have been dubbed by critics as "world class" and "undeniably entertaining".

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: Brendon is a charming performer and creates what can only really be magic right in front of you. A glance at his Facebook and Instagram will show you that he is a sensation literally all over the world.

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZYGJEVZ15IXFzdamEh6XFW0psql4fvoD2rk>

ISIDLAMLILLO (Theatre)

Isidlamlilo is an electrifying one-woman tour-de-force brought to life by acclaimed actress, Mpume Mthombeni, and award-winning theatre-maker Neil Coppen. This new South African play premiered on the main programme at the 2022 National Arts Festival in South Africa to rave reviews and standing ovations. Mthombeni, through frank, comic and captivating storytelling, relays the death-defying life story of Zenzile Maseko. Maseko, a sixty-something Zulu grandmother, rents a cramped room in a Durban's women's hostel, and is haunted by her past working as an IFP assassin (fire-eater) in the build-up to the 1994 South African elections. When Home Affairs mistakenly declares her dead and are unable to reverse the error on their system, Zenzile finds herself cast into the middle of a nightmare, driven to desperate measures to prove she still alive and made, in the process, to reawaken parts of her identity and past that she has spent a majority of her adult life trying to suppress.

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: This play is about to embark on a tour of Europe. It is powerful, meaningful, relevant and deeply emotional. A powerhouse of a performance.

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZ9k5EVZpMs46l4IPIBCTjeoQbla1zY1V9ky>

KAFKA'S APE (Memorial Hall)

Kafka's Ape is a solo performance by internationally acclaimed Tony Miyambo about a primate's struggle to overcome the confines of captivity. The play takes a metaphorical view on South African society. It highlights the complexities of identity in post-apartheid South Africa and in the human race in general. Red Peter, the ape, embarks on a journey ignited by finding a way out of a cage he was confined to after his capture; a journey in which he contests identity based on outward appearance. Through the journey of Red Peter the play provides a narrative that helps to question the understanding of otherness.

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: Tony Miyambo is an extraordinary performer telling a tale born from the SA situation and Kafka's famous play *Report to An Academy*. It raises issues of identity and the terrible human failing of judging a person by outward appearance.

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZ13mwVZM5K62wfThwJ4FH2KysKeHBBHAafV>

MAMBA – PROUDLY SA (Theatre)

Mamba Proudly SA is a hilarious, patriotic, sketch comedy, encompassing a variety of comedic styles.

Fast-moving, verbal, physical, character comedy, suitable for all ages, but best appreciated by those between 12 and 87.

South Africa's legendary sketch comedy act is back after six years with a smashing new Mamba show. Naledi Award winners Ben Voss (remember the crazy Benny Bushwacker?) and John van de Ruit (author of SPUD!) deliver a knockout hour of cutting-edge South African satirical sketch comedy: a crackling script, irrepressible performances, laugh out loud comedy with a thought-provoking edge. *Mamba Proudly SA* is a comedy performance not to be missed.

Whether it be a Service Delivery Comrades Marathon, crime-fighting dancing manoeuvres, a Gen Z YouTuber president, the inner workings of Faf de Klerk's place-kicking technique, Eskom with a Shakespearian Twist, or an auction of proudly South African collectables, *Mamba Proudly SA* is brimming with comedy, satire, irreverence and good old South African gees.

"The genius of *Mamba Proudly SA* is that you find yourself laughing hysterically at the idiocy of the country while feeling fiercely proud about it at the same time."

"*Mamba Proudly SA* speaks to the issues that confront all South Africans right now, reminding us in their humorous way that it isn't our challenges and failures that define us, but our proudly SA spirit."

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: Over the years, Ben and John have entertained a generation with their stage characters, sketch comedy that shines a torch on the often absurd social and political situations South Africans find themselves in. Now they are back, knowing that there is little point in complaining (who listens, anyway) with a proudly SA take on the woes of the times.

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZ6GJEVZF6ErQM7tSTmKnb8wqjLRQRVf15Ek>

MUSICAL CREATIVITY (all in the Chamberlain Music Block)

Be a Popstar

If you have ever wondered what a day in the life of your favourite singer feels like, this is the activity for you! An immersive experience in the newly built Hilton College Recording Studio will allow you the opportunity to stand behind a microphone and record your own

voice to a song of your choice. You will then have the opportunity to sit with a professional studio engineer and master your vocal line with multiple effects so that you can sound like the real deal!

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=XZziJEVZuwDpJyMlluQXAg2pLH3DTXVnNLzX>

Lay Down a Beat

Do you want the opportunity to work with music software that is being used by producers all over the world, then here is your chance! The Hilton College Music Technology Lab contains multiple devices that are setup with industry-leading software which you will get taught to use in order to create your very own content from scratch. Genres such as Hip-Hop, EDM, Amapiano and more are all a click away.

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZjiJEVZi6Xkftour70sQQ0pNYDhozBbNHT7>

Marimba Masterclass

Have you ever watched an amazing performance from your best-loved marimba band and wished that you could learn how it is done? Then join in on this session and have the opportunity to play on the Hilton College marimbas whilst learning a piece or two to show off to your friends. No prior experience needed, just a willing attitude to learn more about this amazing South-African instrument!

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZpvJEVZgzWqXPq71aSul5DWNxIbbRQdWsi7>

SUE CLARENCE SAYS OF THE MUSICAL CREATIVITY TRIO OF OFFERINGS: This contribution from the Hilton College Music Dept is an exciting new development for the Festival. I think children of all ages will be enthralled. I am!!

MY WEIGHT & WHY I CARRY IT (Drama Centre)

“It’s taken years for me to be as loud as I am about this gorgeous body that I’m bestowing on your eyes for a relatively cheap fee,” says Tasmin Sherman, playwright and performer of this brave piece of theatre. It is a one-woman play that is performed as a stand-up comedy routine that breaks down into moments of memory and reflection for the main character, her familial relationships and her interactions with her bikini.

The main character, Vic, tells anecdotal stories about her life growing up as a fat person and the ways in which her life experiences were influenced by her relationships with her mother, her father, and her brother. It is a nuanced comedy that looks at those intimate relationships to which we can all relate. The show is not a set of guidelines for how to handle fatphobia but there are a few tips for an audience to keep in mind after leaving the show.

The production deals with fatphobia, eating disorders, body positivity or body neutrality, family relations and traumatic childhoods.

“I have chosen these themes because the play is semi-autobiographical and so the themes reflect my real life experiences growing up fat. From the feedback I have received from audience members who’ve seen the show, it is not an experience that is unique to me.”

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: This play is accessible and relatable to a wide variety of audiences. It is important that young people see it. Too many of us respond to a person’s physical appearance without giving any thought to their characters. Tas won a prestigious Silver Ovation Award at the 2022 National Arts Festival for this amazing performance.

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZCvJEVZH7P6fkBCkt8LeUbhxW2dpVjd4537>

THE MEANING OF MOVEMENT (SAB Festival Marquee)

Physical theatre work uses the language of gesture, an area of theatre that in the past was dubbed “mime” and thought of as entirely silent. Nowadays physical theatre pieces frequently include spoken text, but the body speaks as eloquently as the voice, and one of the great strengths of this form of performance is that it can often mine the emotions that fall into the silences between the words.

An energetic and thought provoking workshop that will make you reimagine the world around you and your space within it. Presented by Peter Court. Please make sure learners wear suitable clothing (T-shirts, shorts, tracksuits).

This workshop is for primary schools only.

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: After watching two shows back to back, now it’s time to let off steam for the little ones!

FURTHER INFO:

[https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?
code=kZEvJEVZouIXoiPtUwRcWtniDQWoGVmkLV07](https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZEvJEVZouIXoiPtUwRcWtniDQWoGVmkLV07)

THE MOON LOOKS DELICIOUS FROM HERE (Drama Centre)

Through the mediums of physical theatre, mime and characterisation, *The Moon Looks Delicious From Here*, is a semi-autobiographical one-man theatre show which explores immigrant family dynamics and how they shape identity and heritage in a first-generation citizen. Brincat is that first-generation citizen. Born in mid-60's South Africa, Brincat, along with his family, find their maturing years playing out against the backdrop of a country in turmoil. The drama is driven by a loving father and son - each from different eras and motherlands. Here, Brincat plays an array of characters all of whom are finding or losing themselves in the ever-changing political landscape that is South Africa. The play is performed in English with smatterings of Zulu, Mauritian French and Afrikaans and the story is universal in its theme, particularly at this time when the issues of migrants and identity are increasingly in our consciousness.

SUE CLARENCE SAYS: Aldo plays a myriad of characters on a bare stage. He is himself as a child, his father, his next door neighbour, local Durban residents, immigrants. He provides a moving, insightful picture of growing up in the 60s as the reality of apartheid slowly dawns on a child and shapes his life...as well as the life of his best friend. Two little boys driven apart by laws they could not comprehend.

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZLsoxVZ87p8r9SodCRfurjSUoKAMHQwwhd7>

WHAT TO DO BETWEEN SHOWS – LISTED ALPHABETICALLY

Between your first and second shows, and between your second and third shows, the following are available free of charge. First come, first served!

AFDA WORKSHOPS: (all in Lecture Theatres A and B off the Theatre foyer)

AFDA is the Number 1 School for the Creative Economy and offers Higher Certificate programmes, Undergraduate degrees as well as Postgraduate qualifications in film, television, performance, business innovation and creative writing. AFDA is also an internationally recognised institution and is a full member of CILECT – The International Association of Film and Television Schools. AFDA's membership to CILECT gives AFDA students and alumni the opportunity to continue or further their studies at any of the 180+ CILECT member film schools around the world. AFDA is the only film school to have won a Student Oscar for Elaleni - Best Foreign Language Film in 2006. Since then many alumni have been key cast and

crew members of Oscar nominated films. It is one of the leading institutions of its kind in the world today.

AFDA: CUT TO THE CHASE : Janet van Eeden (PhD) is the Dean of AFDA Durban in Glen Anil. She's a seasoned screenwriter, playwright, journalist and producer. One of Janet's biggest passions is screenwriting. This is why she's so delighted that AFDA Durban is offering Bachelor of Creative Writing this year, along with its other degrees in Motion Picture and Live Performance. This workshop will touch on the basics of writing for Film.

TIME: 10H45 ONLY – LECTURE THEATRE A

AFDA: SCREEN ACTING: Do you want to become a celebrity? @ AFDA we start to train and mentor you, so you become the best actor you can be! Camera and frame acting, set protocols and how to create a fascinating character are taught and explained by award winning Sir Roel Twijnstra - actor, director and mentor, together with screen actor, Musa Shozi. Lots of our graduates can be seen in soaps, films and series. (Uzalo, Imbewu, Durban Gen, The Wife, Blood and Water, Lingashoni, Tokolosh the calling etc.) This is not only a talk but a demonstration and interactive workshop for everyone who thinks of building a career in the Television and Film industry. Does the camera love you, find out!

TIME: 10H45 ONLY – LECTURE THEATRE B

AFDA: SETTING UP ACTION:

A Demonstration on "Shooting a Film Scene". Khwezi Ntanda chats about Motion Pictures. Presented by AFDA Durban Motion Picture Department.

TIME: 13H15 ONLY – LECTURE THEATRE A

FURTHER INFO ON AFDA:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZ1iJEVZRKIJ5n3zCs56gvmzal9qXm29eTH7>

ART EXHIBITIONS

Learners are encouraged to browse all the exhibitions and engage with the artists who will gladly discuss their work, techniques, media and inspirations. Don't be shytalk to the artists! Art will be found in the following areas:

Memorial Hall Foyer
Centenary Theatre Foyer
Rockjumper Bird Arena - Normand Dunn Gallery
The Perspective Bell Tower tent

TIME: 10H45 and 13H15

FENCING: (In the Craft Market area)

Come and try your hand at fencing – a skill regularly used in the theatre. Greta Ingram of Midlands Fencing Club will teach you.

TIME: 10H45 and 13H15

KINDNESSCAN STAND

KindnessCan is a movement of talks and workshops facilitated by radio personality, Jane Linley-Thomas and emotional intelligence author, Paul Bushell. Jane and Paul believe that every act of kindness can change the world. This includes kindness at home, school, in the workplace and of course to ourselves. Jane and Paul bring an empathetic, fun, and practical ways to use kindness to make our lives and the world a better place. Make time in your Jongosi programme to leave a message on the KindnessCan stand. No matter how big or small, all acts of kindness improve the world!

TIME: 10H45 and 13H15, venue TBD

FURTHER INFO:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZliJEVZyUVoapP37jLQeeDKAshF1fxNB1Q7>

LIVE MUSIC: (SAB Festival Marquee)

10H45 - Clifton Prep (Durban) Marimba Band; Hilton College Competition Marimba Band.

13H15 - Hilton College Jazz Band together with the UKZN Miriam Makeba Tribute Band.

MUSICAL CREATIVITY (all in the Chamberlain Music Block)

*Note all three of these workshops are available on line 3 of the Jongosi programme as well as 10H45 and 13H15.

Be a Popstar

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TIME: 10H45 and 13H15

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[https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?
code=kZGiJEVZeNHKFOVr9dhTW7MphjyOy8UI9aMV](https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZGiJEVZeNHKFOVr9dhTW7MphjyOy8UI9aMV)

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code=kZjiJEVZi6Xkftour70sQQ0pNYDhozBbNHT7](https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZjiJEVZi6Xkftour70sQQ0pNYDhozBbNHT7)

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code=kZpvJEVZgzWqXPq71aSul5DWNxIbbRQdWsi7](https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZpvJEVZgzWqXPq71aSul5DWNxIbbRQdWsi7)

THE ROCKJUMPER BIRDING ARENA (Dunn Gallery off Theatre Foyer)

The Rockjumper Birding Arena will have a selection of artists exhibiting stunning bird related art and photographs. “We will also be showcasing some of our global birding tour options and even a wide selection of second hand books for sale.” Adam Riley, the founder of Rockjumper Birding Tours will be there to answer any questions you may have about the company and will be happy to share from his wealth of birding knowledge and exciting experiences.

TIME: 10H45 and 13H15

FURTHER INFO:

[https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?
code=kZzrJEVZMlvP3qOOdgmlcQSUQzzKVmc00nvV](https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZzrJEVZMlvP3qOOdgmlcQSUQzzKVmc00nvV)

See you all at Jongosi!

Bring warm clothing just in case. There will be plenty of food traders for snacks and lunch.

“Before a child speaks, it sings. Before they write, they paint. As soon as they stand, they dance. Art is the basis of human expression”.

Sue Clarence

Festival Director