

PRESS STATEMENT



P.E OPERA HOUSE & P.E'S FINEST PRESENT

MARIKANA

"A greener tomorrow"
WRITTEN AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY JUNIOR FERREIRA

18-20 MAY 2016 19H00

21 14H00 1ST SHOW
19H00 2ND SHOW

PE OPERA HOUSE @ THE BARN THEATRE

TICKETS AVAILABLE @ Computicket

OPERA HOUSE NELSON MANDELA BAY

SAFETY AND SECURITY

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R50 **R20** SENIOR CITIZENS & STUDENTS

The Dance Piece

PE's Finest and The PE Opera House present Marikana "A Greener Tomorrow" written and choreographed by Junior Ferreira.

Junior Ferreira follows the life of Mgcineni Noki a 30 year old rock drill operator, a brave mine workers leader who lost his life when fiery bullets of law enforcers brought to naught his and that of 34 other miners lives in Marikana. To many he is "The man with the Green Blanket" while to those who knew him while he was still alive he was affectionately known as Mambush. To Veronica his wife he was a lover and husband. To Asive, their two-year-old daughter, he was the father.

Mambush joined and led determined miners whose only conviction was a sincere call to share the slice of freedom and fruits of land that so many fought for. Little did they know that they would have to contribute with their own lives on the hills of Marikana. They died and left behind destitute families to whom they were sole bread winners.

Theirs was a cry to mine bosses, who have billions to themselves, to improve the workers livelihood. The rest of that fateful day is cover-ups and denials. The only hope is that at some point their children, widows and families would be compensated.

The Group

PE's Finest was started by Marian Ferreira in 2009 after recognizing her son's huge potential as a dancer and thus invited other talented under-18 year old youngsters from the Northern Areas to form part of the dance crew. They ambitiously called their group PE's Finest'. The dance crew has since competed in Hip Hop and all-inclusive dance competitions within Nelson Mandela Bay winning the chance to represent this region in the Eastern Cape's Shukuma Provincial Dance Festival. There in they won silver and gold medals in 2014 and 2015 respectively. For this feat PE's Finest became the only group in the Eastern Cape to reach that level. In 2014 and 2015 PE's Finest qualified to compete in the World Hip Hop Championships in Las Vegas and San Diego. Junior was chosen as the Best Choreographer in the Eastern Cape in 2015 from the only truly provincial dance festival, Shukuma Provincial Dance Festival. The full complement of PE's Finest comprise of Ntuthuzelo Grootboom, Dugulth Junior Ferreira, Nomampondo May, Kaashiefia Plaatjies and Dillon Domingo

Choreographer's Abridged Bio

Dugulth "Junior" Ferreira hailing from Salsonville in the Northern Areas of Nelson Mandela Bay, is a young and diverse choreographer who has worked with dancers throughout the Bay and has equipped himself with different dancing styles and genres despite Hip Hop being his primary focus. He has choreographed for festivals and competitions such as: Shukuma Provincial Dance Festival; Bay Music Awards; S.A Hip Hop Dance Championships, South African Sport, Fitness, Sport, Aerobics Federation; Northern Areas Arts Festival; Splash Festival; Summer Season; Uitenhage Carnival and many more. To his credit Junior has received and won many awards for the works he has choreographed. The following are some of the confirmations he has attained without dispute, Most Promising Dancer; Best Dancer and Best Choreographer.

About Dance Seasons

Dance Seasons at The PE Opera House is commissioned works staged every month for a week long short run. This programme is designed to breathe life into ready productions that are produced largely by local based experts.

Your Experience At The Venue

A cash bar is available at the Ideas Corner (Upper Foyer) and the Sweet Counter at the Ground Floor [open an hour before the show begins and after the show].

Show Dates : 18 – 21 May 2016
Venue : The Barn Theatre, PE Opera House
Time : [18 – 20 May] 19:00
[21 May] 14:00 and 19:00
Admission : R50.00 (Students and Pensioners are R20.00)
limited seating be sure to be early
[Friends of Opera House have Discounts – To Be A Friend contact Ms Skosana]

Bookings are done through Computicket or can be arranged through :
Cingiwe Skosana (cingiwe.skosana@gmail.com)
Chuma Tokota (mkhuma.mbathane5@gmail.com)

Programme Producer and Statement Submission

Programme is produced by Nobesuthu Rayi, Artistic Manager – The Opera House

Statement released by Cingiwe Skosana
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Sponsorship, Partnership and Donations

Sponsorship

The Opera House and its programmes are funded by the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality and Department of Sport Recreation Arts and Culture [EC Provincial Government]

Partnerships

The Opera House has partnership with Helenvale TV Production Company, Baytv and Nelson Mandela Bay Arts Council

Donations

The Opera House welcomes donations from all persons who value promotion and development of Performing Arts. Donors will be acknowledged. We shall use donations to ensure access to arts for young and up and coming people as well as artistic charitable programmes that the institution has.