

THE MARKET BUZZ

Nov - Dec 2024



THE
MARKET
THEATRE
FOUNDATION

THE
MARKET
SQUARE

THE
MARKET
PHOTO
WORKSHOP

THE
MARKET
THEATRE
LABORATORY

THE
WINDYBROW
ARTS CENTRE

THE
MARKET
THEATRE



FESTIVE MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dumelang!

We're once again entering the Festive Season, a time that allows us to look back at how the year has been in our personal and work lives, while also taking a moment to rest.

I want to firstly thank every staff member of The Market Theatre Foundation for your dedication in making this organisation the best among its peers. I remain proud of the strides made by our



business units in solidifying the strategic objectives of the Foundation—The Market Photo Workshop which continues to lead the pack in photojournalism, The Windybrow Arts Centre that helps young people discover their purpose through creativity, The Market Theatre Laboratory and its excellence in incubating the next generation of on-stage, on-screen and behind-the-scenes practitioners, as well as The Market Theatre with its high standards of performance offerings.

Again, we're grateful as an organisation to have stakeholders who believe in our vision and invest their time, talent and treasure into realising it. To all our funders, the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, patrons, the media and the whole creative and cultural community, thank you for your partnership.

My holiday wish for you is rest, quality family time, a lot of joy, peace and good health.

May we meet again in the New Year in greater spirits, ready to take on the year.

Shoutout!

Tshiamo Mokgadi

CEO: Market Theatre Foundation

CREDITS

Editor-in-Chief
Lusanda Zokufa

Senior Writer
Ace Moloji

Contributors
Mamello Khomongoe

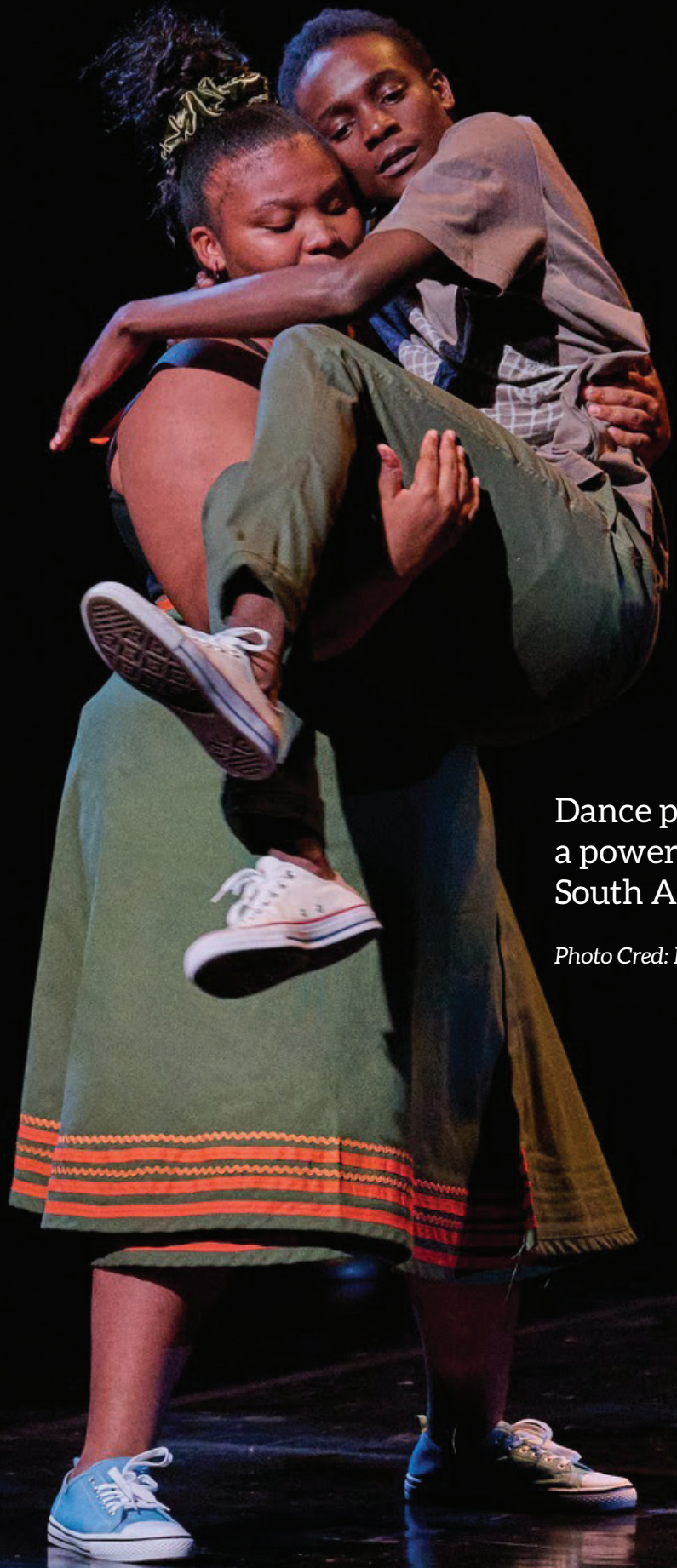
Layout & Design
Lebogang Morake

CEO
Tshiamo Mokgadi

COO
Lekgetho Makola

CFO
Mbali Buthelezi

Artistic Director
Greg Homann



Dance piece, *Father & I*, is a powerful exploration of South African fathers.

Photo Cred: Lauge Sorensen

YEAR-END STAFF MEETING SETS TONE FOR NEW YEAR



MTF CEO chaired the last staff meeting for the year.

The last Market Theatre Foundation staff meeting for 2024 was not only a wrap-up of the year, but also a teaser of next year's exciting plans.

The meeting was called and chaired by CEO Tshiamo Mokgadi, who updated employees on various key matters, including the draft Strategic Performance Plan (SPP) 2025 – 2030. Once approved, the SPP will inform the MTF on issues such as revenue generation, fundraising, touching of lives, community impact, workplace culture and internal efficiencies. The CEO took the opportunity to also introduce the new COO, Lekgetho Makola, who was attending his first staff meeting since he was appointed.

During his turn, the COO shared his vision of creating a caring and efficient organisational space. "One of my core responsibilities is to ensure that support services – Human Resources, Front Of House, Brand and Communications, IT – see themselves as service providers for the institution to everybody, and as service providers or service providing units, they

depend on feedback from each one of you. For us to perform to our optimum, we need to get a sense of your needs and tailor our work towards satisfying all your needs," he told the meeting.

The budget for the next financial year has been approved, according to CFO Mbali Buthelezi, who also informed staff members that two SOPs for Finance and SCM have also been approved and should be discussed at departmental status meetings.

Other presenters included Greg Homann, who teased next year's artistic programming.

The Q&A session addressed operational matters of security, network and more, with employees constructively contributing to the success of The Market Theatre Foundation. In her closing remarks, the CEO thanked the staff for their unwavering dedication to the organisation, and wished them well as they prepared to go on a well-deserved rest.



FINANCIAL WELLNESS WORKSHOP HAILED AS IMPACTFUL



Refiloe Chesane is the MTF's HR Generalist.

On 13 November 2024, the HR department of the Market Theatre Foundation, led by Refiloe Chesane, partnered with financial services provider, Sanlam, to organise a much-needed Financial Wellness Workshop for MTF staff. Hosted at the Market Photo Workshop's auditorium, the workshop was interactive, allowing for staff members to engage with the presenter.

The session was facilitated by Anthony Mouton, who knowledgeably addressed important financial areas that affect employees, such as retirement planning, credit profiling, budgeting and more.

Anthony empowered staff members to distinguish between good and bad debt, saying

good debt referred to when a person took up debt to improve their life or the value of their investments. "Any debt that is not managed, even if it's good debt, it will become bad debt," he shared.

He further emphasised the importance of employees rewarding themselves as a form of motivation, by buying things that make them happy, which are only for them. At the end of the session, each staff member was able to log onto the Sanlam credit check portal to assess their credit health and get professional guidance.

Staff members hailed the workshop as impactful, calling for more of such corporate initiatives to ensure financial literacy and wisdom.



THE MARKET THEATRE HONOURS SOBUKWE'S LEGACY



Lala Ngenxeba/Of Love and Revolution's cast consisted of Pulane Rampoana, Zizana Peteni and Katlego Letsholonyane. Photo cred: Lungelo Mbulwana

Pan-Africanism was the defining word for the last two months of the artistic year at The Market Theatre, as the space became a gathering point for artists, activists and enthusiasts from all over the SADC region for the first KAZA KAMBA Pan African Theatre Festival and the staging of a play exploring the life and times of PAC's founding president, Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe. The festival was curated by Bobby Rodwell and Lesego Rampolokeng.

KAZA KAMBA, a product of The Market Theatre Foundation's collaboration with mehlo-maya (eye to the sun), happened between 14 – 17 November 2024, bringing together seven different countries for workshops, music shows, film screenings and talks. "The objective of this cross-border festival is to invite artists from SADC countries to share creative projects and ideas, network, and strengthen ties between the countries while giving audiences an opportunity

to immerse themselves in the stories of our region," said Bobby Rodwell.

Running concurrently with the festival was an installation aimed at celebrating the legacy of PAC's founding president, Robert Sobukwe, titled 'Dear Mr Sobukwe'. Greg Homann, Artistic Director at The Market Theatre Foundation, officially opened the installation and the festival at large, stressing the importance of collaboration, cultural exchange and integration, as well as honouring the contribution of Sobukwe to the African liberation movement. Leading by example, The Market Theatre staged Lala Ngenxeba/Of Love and Revolution, a play about the life and times of Sobukwe, which opened on 14 November 2024 as part of KAZA KAMBA. The play was commissioned in commemoration of the centenary of Sobukwe's birth.



A THEATRE OF DREAMS: WHAT 2024 INTERNS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE MTF



Nontethelelo Mvubu
Library Intern

“I enhanced my familiarity with photography and drama resources, providing students with efficient access to information and support.”



Sandiso Nomphukane
IT Intern

“Throughout my internship, I grew both personally and professionally. I developed greater self-discipline, time management skills, and resilience in the face of challenges. I also improved my communication skills, learning to effectively collaborate with colleagues and interact with clients. This experience taught me the importance of adaptability, teamwork, and continuous learning, shaping me into a more confident and capable individual.”



Lebogang Morake
Graphic Design Intern

“My year at The Market Theatre was amazing. I got to design for the biggest productions of the year and met my childhood heroes along the way. This journey was a great experience and exposure to the industry. I learnt a lot while making friends.”



Bonga Somaxama
Stage Manager Intern

“Behind every successful show was always a gorgeous and dedicated Bonga, who made it all possible.”



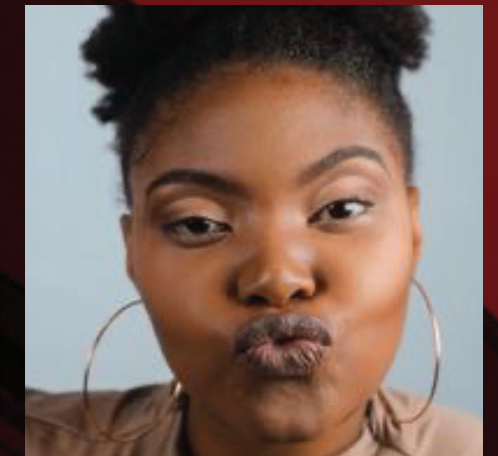
Keorapetse Moletsane
Digital Communications Intern

“Upon leaving the Market Theatre, I take with me invaluable skills, knowledge, and unforgettable memories of my time in the industry. My experience at the Market Theatre has been nothing short of exceptional, marked by incredible encounters with remarkable individuals who have left a lasting impact on my life and career.”



Candice Ndlovu
Maintenance Intern

“Entering the workforce as the youngest team member in a male-dominated industry has been an eye-opening experience that has revealed my true capabilities. I stepped into the world of civil engineering with a sense of trepidation, never anticipating that my first job would be in the unique environment of a theatre. Surrounded by seasoned professionals, I felt the weight of expectations and the challenge of proving myself in a field that often feels exclusive. However, rather than allowing these circumstances to intimidate me, I embraced the opportunity to learn and grow.”



Mamello Khomongoe
Audience Development Intern

“I had a truly fulfilling and transformative experience, filled with meaningful connections, growth, and memorable moments. The balance of give and take, along with personal and professional development. It's great to say my customer service skills have improved as well, making the journey even more rewarding.”



Thato Mahlase
Technical Assistant Intern

“I learned a lot and got to meet a lot of people that inspired me to do better. Sure I had personal challenges throughout the year but being here taught me a lot and I am proud to have had an opportunity to work here.”

MTF INTERNS 2024

RISING STAR: MARKET LAB ALUMNUS, NEO MOLOI

QwaQwa-born actor and Market Theatre Laboratory alumnus, Neo Moloi, aims to inspire aspiring performing artists from his hometown with the knowledge he acquired at the Lab. Moloi is a rising star in the film and television industry, with memorable roles on shows such as SABC 1's Generations: The Legacy and etv's Isiphetho.

Moloi tells The Market Buzz that he discovered the Lab in 2018 while studying in Bloemfontein, and decided to deep-dive into the unknown waters of Johannesburg. "I studied for 2 years at the Lab and the experience was so amazing, and some of my highlights at the Lab were every time I had to go on stage, getting an opportunity to go and perform in Brazil when I was doing my first year, and France when I was doing my second year; and last but not least on my graduation day," he recalls.

Moloi adds that the Lab doesn't only offer live performance, but also delves into the basics of film and television, including exposing students to real production sets.



STUDY PART-TIME AT THE MARKET THEATRE LABORATORY 2025

PART TIME COURSES

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| ACTING R3000 | SCREEN ACTING R3600 | WRITING R3000 |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|

CYCLE 1:
25 JANUARY – 13 APRIL 2025
(REGISTRATION 22, 23, 24 JANUARY 11H00 – 18H00)

CYCLE 2:
03 MAY – 20 JULY 2025
(REGISTRATION 30 APRIL, 01, 02 MAY 11H00 – 18H00)

CYCLE 3:
16 AUGUST – 02 NOVEMBER 2025
(REGISTRATION 13, 14, 15 AUGUST 11H00 – 18H00)

COURSES RUN ON SATURDAYS ONLY

Purchase your ticket for Actor-Wena, Introduction to Screen Acting or Short Film Writing Course on Webtickets
Whatsapp 0633611211 for any queries or visit www.marketlab.co.za

THE MARKET THEATRE LABORATORY

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MPW ALUMNA, FATMA FAHMY, GETS MAGNUM FOUNDATION NOD



Fatma Fahmy, an alumna of The Market Photo Workshop, has received a big nod from leading documentary photography organisation, Magnum Foundation. Fahmy, an independent visual storyteller from Egypt whose work focuses on environmental and social issues, was named among nine recipients of the 2024-25 Heat Fellowship.

“As increasingly urgent climate crises demand new paradigms for making and sharing images, this cohort features nine photographers whose projects reimagine what a critical and ecological photographic practice might look like,” said Magnum Foundation in a statement.

Fahmy holds a B.A. degree in Chemical Engineering from Cairo University, obtained in

2013. In 2020, she received a scholarship from the Daniele Tamagni Grant at the Market Photo Workshop, providing her with the opportunity to participate in the Photojournalism and Documentary Photography Programme.

Among her many accolades, she was named one of the African Photographers you should know by PhMuseum and also shortlisted for the Sony World Photography Award in the Environment category for her ongoing long-term series titled ‘The Lost Lake.’

This series, which explores the ways climate change has transformed Lake Qarun, Egypt’s third-largest natural lake and one of the oldest natural lakes in the world, is also behind her selection as a Heat Fellow.

“MPW was one of the reasons for my recent success, and I truly appreciate all the support. Thank you for everything, and for being part of my journey,” expressed Fahmy, who has since done work with the likes of Reuters, the New York Times and CNN since completing her course at The Market Photo Workshop.

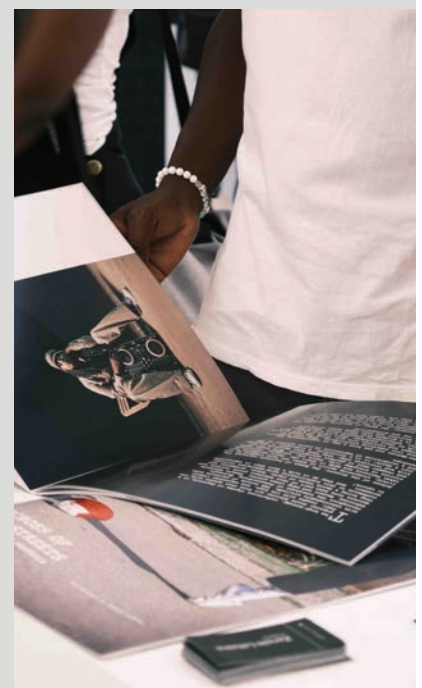
STORIES & COLLABORATIONS EXHIBITION OPENS FOR PUBLICITY



COO Lekgetho Makola at the opening of *Stories & Collaborations*

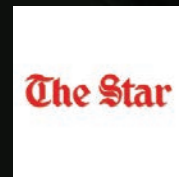
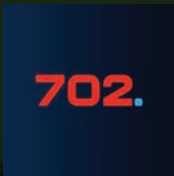
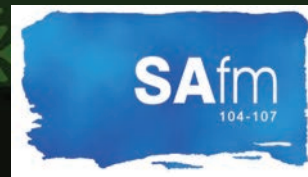
On 7 December 2024, the Market Photo Workshop opened the *Stories & Collaborations* exhibition for publicity. The exhibition features works from

the Photo Incubator Edition 9 supported by the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture (DSAC). It was opened by Market Theatre Foundation COO, Lekgetho Makola, who is currently the acting as the head of the Photo Workshop, as well as Themba Luthuli, Deputy Director: Performing Arts and Festivals at DSAC. The exhibition was accompanied by exciting activities that includes a 5-aside football match, revving car display, Fuji Film products experience and a public conversation about empowering photopreneurs.





The Market Theatre Foundation is grateful to the following media institutions for telling our story:



UPCOMING SHOWS

Thank you for making 2024 a year of incredible growth and heartwarming memories. Here's an inside look into what we have in store for you in 2025:

THE CRY OF WINNIE MANDELA



Winnie Mandela's undeniable legacy is spotlighted in this stage adaptation of Njabulo S. Ndebele's acclaimed novel, *The Cry of Winnie Mandela*. The play's star-studded cast, directed by MoMo Matsunyane, celebrate the indomitable spirit of women, while paying homage to the legacy of Winnie Mandela.

THE LIFE & TIMES OF MICHAEL K



J.M Coetzee's literary magic and incisive storytelling drive this adaptation of his seminal work. The play follows Michael K, a man who goes on a journey through South Africa to take his mother to die where she was born, in the process finding strength in his own humanity.

'N BEGIN



This Afrikaans play, directed by the award-winning Tinarie van Wyk Loots, movingly and delicately explores the complexity of modern relationships. The award-winning acting couple, Cintaine Schutte and Carel Nel, will play opposite each other again for the Johannesburg run of this production dubbed "flirty, modern and real" by *Netwerk24*.



EXCITING MOMENTS FROM THE MARKET



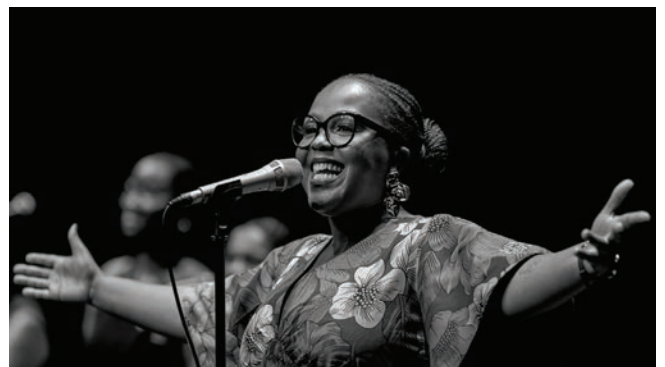
Dance piece, Father & I, explored fatherhood.



Windybrow Arts Centre end of year concert.



Pulane Rampoana plays as Veronica Sobukwe on Lala Ngenxeba/Of Love and Revolution.



Singer Nomfundo Xaluva launched her album in The John Kani Theatre.



Pantsula Dance at the Market Photo Workshop.



The hilarious cast of CALL US CRAZY.



THE MARKET THEATRE FOUNDATION

**WISHES YOU A HAPPY
FESTIVE SEASON**

**THE MARKET
SQUARE**