



# Drama Seasons

A PROJECT OF THE OPERA HOUSE | NELSON MANDELA DAY

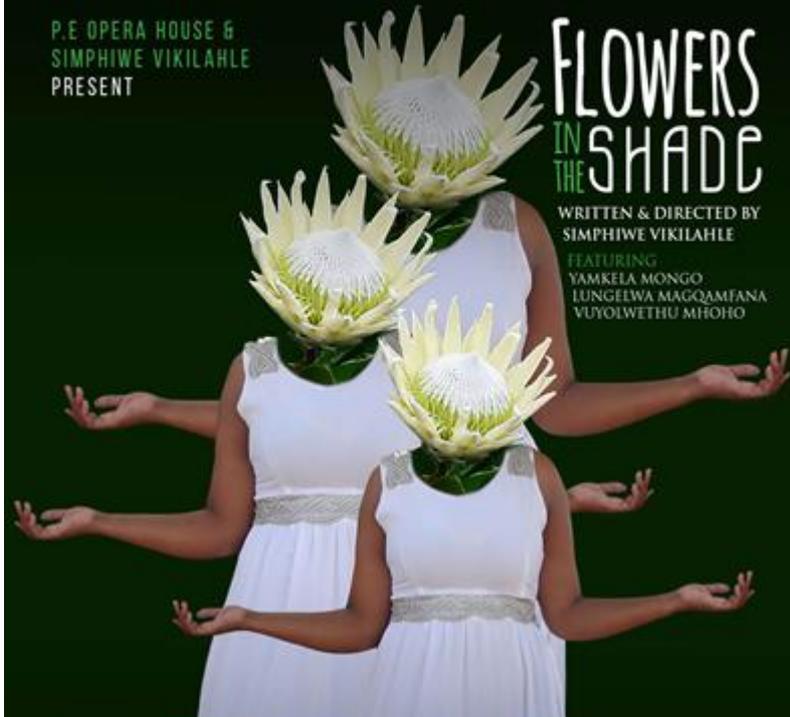
## PRESS STATEMENT

P.E OPERA HOUSE &  
SIMPHIWE VIKILAHLE  
PRESENT

# FLOWERS IN THE SHADE

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY  
SIMPHIWE VIKILAHLE

FEATURING  
YAMKELA MONGO  
LUNGELWA MAGQAMFANA  
VUYOLWETHU MHOHO



25-27 MAY 2016 19H00

28

PE OPERA HOUSE  
@THE BARN THEATRE

14H00 1ST SHOW  
19H00 2ND SHOW

TICKETS AVAILABLE @ 



**R50**  
**R20**  
SENIOR CITIZENS &  
STUDENTS



## The Production

*Flowers In The Shade*, a tale of love, deceit and the burden that the truth kept secret carries. Mzolisi, a family head wannabe has his past rooted in his mind. This constantly haunting him it is threatening the house he is building. Amanda, his loving girlfriend, would very much like them to marry and build a future together. Mzolisi is forced to tell the truth, BUT this is the line too wide and a river too murky to try to leap over. Mzolisi's dilemma is complicated by the arrival of his brother Vuyolwethu, his childhood bully and nemesis. Vuyolwethu is supposed to be in Johannesburg celebrating his birthday. What might have brought him to his brother's door step?

At times dishonesty and secretiveness offer comfort and reprieve to the mendacious. Only for a while though.

*Flowers In The Shade* is written and Directed by Simphiwe Vikilahle, starring Vuyolwethu Mhomho featuring Lungelwa Magqamfana and Yamkela Mongo

## About The Producer

Simphiwe Vikilahle is a passionate director and scriptwriter and a dedicated producer who has in turn imparted his skill in teaching at Newell High School and Qaphelani Senior Secondary in New Brighton and Kwazakhele respectively. While working with Qaphelani High School he guided them to winning the overall title at the Eastern Cape Theatre competition conducted by GM South Africa held at the PE Opera House in 2008. For the same work he received the Best Writer award while coming second as Best Director.

In the same year he wrote the play called *The Journey* which was then produced by Mark Lloyd of Tap Root productions, a company based in England. This was the collaboration with Swallows Foundation. The play was first performed at the PE Opera House and later at the National Arts Festival. The Journey toured the Eastern Cape and the North East of England. *The Journey* won awards at Market Theatre's Zwakala Festival in Johannesburg thus becoming eligible for a month long season at the Market Theatre.

In 2012 Simphiwe Vikilahle wrote, directed and produced *Ghost House* which after appearing at PE Opera House was invited to the Baxters Theatre (Cape Town) Zabalaza Festival in 2012. The production received 5 nominations and Simphiwe ultimately won the Best Script of Zabalaza Festival 2012.

Simphiwe Vikilahle and Simphiwe Mzimba teamed up in 2015 to form **Eight Angels Drama Academy** wherein they groom young actors from the township. The actors in this production *Flowers In The Shade*, are members of Eight Angels Drama Academy. Vikilahle has had a long hand in producing talent in the Nelson Mandela Bay and among his proteges he counts Lonwabo Xatasi and Khanyile Mgqwanci, actors who have since made their mark as notable sparks in the theatre landscape.

## About Drama Seasons

Drama 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 Bar (Upper Foyer) and the Sweet Counter at the Ground Floor [open an hour before the show begins and after the show].

Show Dates : 27 - 30 April 2016  
Venue : The Barn Theatre, PE Opera House  
Time : [27-29 Apr] 19:00  
          [30 Apr] 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

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

Statement released by Cingiwe Skosana  
Port Elizabeth Opera House Marketing Officer  
[arts@peoh.co.za](mailto:arts@peoh.co.za) or [cingiwe.skosana@gmail.com](mailto:cingiwe.skosana@gmail.com) | 041 585 1300 or 061 996 0200

## Sponsorship, Partnership and Donations

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### 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.