PIETER TOERIEN AND ERIC ABRAHAM PRESENT A THEATRE ON THE BAY AND THE FUGARD THEATRE PRODUCTION OF

WILLY RUSSELL'S SMASH HIT MUSICAL BLOOD BROTHERS ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY DAVID KRAMER

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WILLY RUSSELL'S SMASH HIT MUSICAL BLOOD BROTHERS Adapted and directed by DAVID KRAMER



WILLY RUSSELL BOOK, MUSIC & LYRICS



DAVID KRAMER ADAPTATION & DIRECTION

Willy Russell was born in Liverpool in 1947. He became a hairdresser upon leaving school and then undertook a variety of jobs whilst writing songs which were performed in local folk clubs and coming up with sketches for local radio programs. When Willy was 20 years old, he returned to college and became a teacher in Toxteth, after which he became interested in dramatic writing. His first play, Keep your Eyes Down, was produced in 1971 and he became famous after his musical about the Beatles, John, Paul, George, Ringo... and Bert, ran for eight weeks at the Liverpool Everyman Theatre. It transferred to the West End and won the Evening Standard and London Theatre Critic Awards for best musical in 1974. Since then Willy has written several plays, including *Educating*

David Kramer is an award-winning creator of musicals. Together with the late Taliep Petersen, he created six musicals which enjoyed enormous local success. Four of these collaborations, District Six, Poison, Kat and the Kings and Ghoema have toured internationally. **District Six** was invited to the Edinburgh International Festival, Poison was performed in Malaysia and Kat and the Kings made its international debut at the Tricycle Theatre, London in 1998. Kat and the Kings has gone on to be performed in the West End and on Broadway, winning the Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Musical in London in 1999.

His solo work includes an Afrikaans musical, *Die Ballade Van Koos Sas*, which explores the trade in "Bushmen" skeletons during the early 1900's, and a musical comedy *Some Like It Vrot. Die Ballade Van Koos Sas* won the De Kat Herrie Award and the Skouerklop Award and was the first musical to be performed in Afrikaans on a British stage. His interest and passion has, for **Rita** and **Shirley Valentine**, both of which were adapted into Oscar nominated films starring Julie Walters and Pauline Collins respectively. He has also written teleplays, including the well-received **Our Day Out**. Other stage plays include **Stags and Hens, Breezeblock Park** and **One for the Road**.

Willy has continued song-writing since the early 1960s and he wrote the lyrics and score for the original version of **Blood Brothers**. It enjoyed a 24 year run on London's West End and played a two year run on Broadway. The British touring version continues to play to packed houses and many foreign productions have been produced. In 2000, Willy published his first novel, **The Wrong Boy** and in 2003 he released his first album, **Hoovering The Moon**.

almost forty years, been to explore South African identity. His work in South African musical theatre has focused primarily on the communities of the Cape. In 2001 David presented a concert showcasing eccentric musicians from small towns in the Karoo called **Karoo Kitaar Blues**. A live CD was recorded and the show was awarded two FNB Vita Awards.

A documentary directed by Liza Key about David's work with these musicians has been shown internationally on television. It won the Golden Reel Award for Best Musical Documentary at the 2006 Tiburon International Film Festival in California.

He received a GMT Lifelong Achievement Award in 2005 for his contribution to Afrikaans music. He has also been honoured by SARRAL and entered in their Composers Hall of Fame, awarded The Order of the Disa and an honorary Doctorate of Literature by UCT. In 2009 he was recognized by the Akademie van Wetenskap en Kuns and received their Prestige Award.





DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Sometime in the late 1980s I had the privilege of seeing Willy Russell's **Blood Brothers** in London. I remember being enormously impressed by the drama of the story and the emotional impact of the songs. At that time Taliep Petersen and I were enjoying enormous success with our first musical **District Six**, which like **Blood Brothers**, was attracting audiences from all walks of life. As I left the theatre it struck me that the **Blood Brothers** story would resonate with our audiences if it could be relocated from Liverpool to Cape Town. This idea has stayed with me over the decades and two years ago, when I heard that Pieter Toerien intended to stage the musical in South Africa, I approached him with the proposal of adapting it to a Cape Town setting. Blood Brothers has been translated into many languages and has played in many countries, but always as a story set in Liverpool. This is the first time that Mr Russell has granted permission for an adaptation and I am extremely grateful to him for allowing me this opportunity. This is a story that explores the notion of nurture verses nature; a story of class differences within a community and how access to the privileges afforded by a middle class upbringing as opposed to that of someone from a working class or unemployed background can impact on future possibilities. During the sixties thousands of inner city Liverpool families were rehoused to new estates as part of a "slum clearance" scheme and it is against this background that Mr Russell's story unfolds. For very different reasons, new housing estates were built on the Cape Flats and thousands of families were moved from inner city areas such as District Six. This history of forced removals and the impact of the Group Areas Act functions in a similar way as the backstory of the Cape Town version of Blood Brothers. The language that I have used employs a technique I first started to develop with the writing of District Six, in that it attempts to communicate in English, but has the sound of an Afrikaans patois. The use of Afrikaans words and speech patterns serves to underline the class difference of the Johnstone and Lyons families. Wherever possible we have tried to give the music a local flavour and I am excited with the results. The talents of Alistair Izobell and Don-veno Prins have contributed enormously in this regard and their arrangements of the music have re-invented the score as distinctly South African.

ABOUT BLOOD BROTHERS

Willy Russell originally wrote and presented **Blood Brothers** as a school play in 1982, in conjunction with Merseyside Young People's Theatre. Soon after, he developed the musical for a production at the Liverpool Playhouse in 1983, starring Barbara Dickson and Andrew C. Wadsworth in the leading roles. It was only a modest success. Nevertheless, the show transferred to London's West End in April 1983 and ran at the Lyric Theatre until late October 1983, winning the Olivier Award for Best New Musical and another Olivier Award for Dickson's performance as Mrs Johnstone.

Blood Brothers enjoyed a year long national tour beginning in 1987, leading to a revival, which ran for 3 years, at the Albery Theatre. The original cast was led by Kiki Dee as Mrs Johnstone, Warwick Evans as the Narrator, Con O'Neill, who, as Mickey, won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Actor in 1989 and Robert Locke as Eddie.

The musical transferred to the Phoenix Theatre in November 1991, where it closed 21 years later in November 2012. Over the past three decades **Blood Brothers** has been seen by many millions of audience members as it played more than 10 000 performances in London; making it the third longestrunning musical to ever play in the West End. Interestingly, the central role of Mrs Johnstone has been played by, among others, Angela Richards, Barbara Dickson, Stephanie Lawrence, Clodagh Rodgers, Lyn Paul, Siobhan McCarthy, four of the Nolan sisters (Linda, Bernie, Denise and Maureen), Melanie Chisholm and Vivienne Carlyle.

Blood Brothers is, at first, a heart-warming story of Mickey and Edward, two brothers separated at birth, brought together again through a chance meeting and an ensuing friendship. However, their familial relationship is concealed by their guardians who strive to keep them apart because of circumstance and superstitious beliefs.

Despite relocating, their lives continue to intertwine, although the deep divisions between the privileged life of Edward and Mickey's poverty-stricken existence are wholly apparent. As they try to conquer the social divisions which hinder their friendship, they must deal with the harsh realities of class consciousness; Edward goes on to study whilst Mickey is forced into a desperate life of crime through unemployment.

As adults, they are caught up in a vicious love triangle with Mickey's childhood sweetheart Linda. Mickey's imprisonment and subsequent depression pushes Linda into the arms of the conciliatory Edward. A desperate Mickey takes drastic action against his fraternal twin which will ultimately expose their true identities.

Willy Russell has never granted permission for his musical to be adapted or presented in South Africa, until now.







"... NOW THE TOKOLOSHE'S GOT YOUR NUMBER. Y'KNOW HE'S GONNA FIND YOU..."





ALISTAIR IZOBELL MUSICAL SUPERVISOR, NARRATOR, TEACHER, MAGISTRATE

Alistair started his professional theatre career in the Kramer/Petersen musical **District Six**. He followed that with the role of Ritchie Valens in the South African production of **The Buddy Holly Story**. He was part of Kevin Feather's tribute show, **The DooWah Boys**, and then offered a recording contract by Patric van Blerk. Alistair performed the role of Magoo on the West End and Broadway productions of the Kramer/Petersen musical **Kat and the Kings**, for which he received an Olivier Award. Alistair Izobell Productions has produced several shows at the Baxter Theatre, the most recent being **Radio Classics** together with Heart 104.9's Clarence Ford, over the summer of 2012.



DENIS HUTCHINSON LIGHTING DESIGN

Career highlights include both scenic and lighting designs for **Sunset Boulevard**, **Delirium**, **Brothers** *in Blood*, **Romance**, **Macbeth**, **Umoja** (in London's West End), **Big Band Blast**, **Life x3**, **Amadeus**, **Tell Me on a Sunday**, **Mojo**, **A Handful of Keys** and **The Four Seasons** as well as lighting for **African Footprint**, **Rosalinda**, **Closer** and a season of seven South African plays for Woza Africa at the Lincoln Festival in New York. His work with Free Flight and Vusa dance companies has taken him to Germany, Switzerland and Australia and he regularly works in France with choreographer Robyn Orlin. Theatre consulting projects have included the Monument Theatre in Grahamstown, the Arts Centre for the University of Johannesburg, both the Globe and the Lyric theatres at Gold Reef City and the three venues of the new Soweto Theatre.



PAUL & MATTHEW KALIL PROJECTION DESIGN

Brothers Paul and Matthew enjoy using images and projections to support and enhance narration and performance in both theatre and film. Paul works as a motions graphics designer in the film industry and he creates live video graphical performances utilizing all forms of media, including projection mapping. Paul uses balanced, clean lines and concise symbolic imagery in his work. Matthew is an educator, writer and film director. His documentaries and films often explore themes relating to identity politics and environmental issues.



PENNY SIMPSON COSTUME DESIGN

Penny completed a BA in Fine Arts at Witwatersrand University followed by four years in the United Kingdom where she studied theatre design at the Sadlers Wells Design School (now known as Motley). Penny has designed sets and costumes for dramas, musicals and operas, which include *Hadrian VII, The Rocky Horror Show* and *Sunset Boulevard*, as well as productions for JazzArt, NAPAC and PACOFS. The past 20 years have found Penny managing the Artscape Wardrobe Department. Her awards include the Naledi Award for her costume work on *Evita*, Fleur du Cap awards for *Evita* and *Fiela se Kind* and a Nederberg Award nomination for the set design of *Man of La Mancha*.



JAMES WEBB SOUND EFFECTS

James Webb's work has been exhibited, broadcast and performed throughout South Africa and other parts of the world. Known for his conceptual approach to composition and sound design, Webb has developed a rich and unique body of work influenced by his practise as a contemporary artist and experimental musician. Notable soundtracks include Athol Fugard's *Die Laaste Kaaretjiegraf* and *The Bird Watchers*, for which he won a Fleur du Cap award, Brett Bailey's *Orfeus*, Nicola Hanekom's *Babel*, as well as *Romeo & Julia, Mamma Medea* and *Aars!* directed by Marthinus Basson.

WILLY RUSSELL'S **BLOOD BROTHERS** ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY

DAVID KRAMER

ACT I

Overture

Musicians, Company & Narrator **Marilyn Monroe** Mrs Johnstone & Company Marilyn Monroe (Reprise) Mrs Johnstone

My Child Mrs Lyons & Mrs Johnstone

Entr'acte

Musicians Marilyn Monroe 2

Mrs Johnstone & Company

Die Tokoloshe

Narrator

Easy Terms Mrs Johnstone Shoes Upon the Table Narrator

I Wish I was like Sammy Mickey

Easy Terms (Reprise) Mrs Johnstone

That Guy

Mickey & Eddie

Die Tokoloshe (Reprise)

Narrator

Mad Woman

Company

ACT II

Mickey, Sammy, Linda & Company Bergies on the Mountain Narrator Skoene Oppie Tafel Narrator

Kids' Game

I'm Not Saying a Word Edward & Linda Take a Letter, Miss Jones Mr Lyons, Miss Jones & Company Marilyn Monroe 3

Mrs Johnstone

Bright New Day (Preview) Mrs Johnstone

Long Sunday Afternoon /My Friend Narrator, Mickey & Eddie

Bright New Day Mrs Johnstone, Sammy & Company

Light Romance Mrs Johnstone Madman Narrator & Company

Tell Me It's Not True Mrs Johnstone & Company







CAST

Mrs Johnstone Mrs Lyons Narrator, Teacher, Magistrate Mickey Edward Linda Mr Lyons, Doctor, Teacher Sammy Ensemble, Linda Swing Donna Marie, Estate Agent, Ensemble Policeman, HP Man, Conductor, Councillor Hawker, Kid, Warder, Ensemble Ensemble

MUSICIANS

Soprano and Tenor Saxophone Keyboards Guitar Bass Drums Violin Bianca le Grange Lynelle Kenned

Alistair Izobell Ephraim Gordon Dean Balie Andréa Frankson Marlo Minnaar Carlo Daniels Monique Rockman

Sue Pyler

Junaid Booysen

Shadley Schroeder Edith Plaatjies

Don-veno Prins Grandall Vlotman Jason de Laney Charlton Daniels Keagan Links Kerryn Torrance

PRODUCTION

Book, Music & Lyrics Adaptation & Direction Producer Co-Producer Associate Producer Musical Supervisor Lighting Design Projection Design QLab Programming Costume Design Costume Assistant Sound Effects Sound Design

Photography Technical services Stage Manager ASM Crew

Pre-production Assistant Dresser Sound Engineer

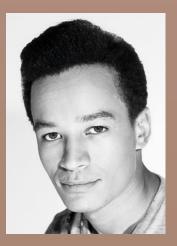
Microphone Technician Publicity Willy Russell **David Kramer Pieter Toerien** Eric Abraham **Daniel Galloway Renaye Kramer** Alistair Izobell **Dennis Hutchinson** Paul & Matthew Kalil Benjamin du Plessis **Penny Simpson** Alicia McCormick James Webb **Graham Muir** Juan Potter Jesse Kramer Abdul Burton for OTBS Juanita van Wyk Chané Rinquest Clvnt Hlubi Achmat Khroodien **Roberto Grové** Juanita Ferreira Widaad Albertus Juan Potter Sage Booker Jarryd-Jay Weiss Allison Foat for DIVA PR

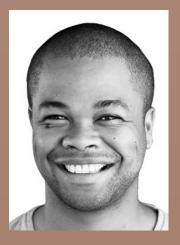












BIANCA LE GRANGE MRS JOHNSTONE

Born into a musical family, Bianca has always had a passion for music and the performing arts. Since her breakthrough on *Idols* in 2002, she has released four albums and performed for audiences in Africa, Europe and South America and has opened concerts for Alicia Keys, Beyonce, Usher and P-Diddy. Recently she had the lead role in Sun City's extravaganza *Moving On Up*. She co-starred with Shaleen Surtie-Richards, Marc Lottering and Tobie Cronjé while performing the title roles in *Cinderella* and *Snow White*, both directed by Janice Honeyman.

LYNELLE KENNED MRS LYONS

A star graduate of the UCT Opera School and a member of the award-winning South African Sopranos, Lynelle is no stranger to the stage. She has performed for audiences at Brown University and entertained the British Parliament. Lynelle became a popular TV personality as the runner-up in the **Top Billing Presenter Search**. She subsequently joined **Pasella** as a presenter and expanded her skills by adding voice over artist, MC and motivational speaker to her repertoire. Lynelle's career highlights include performing with Katherine Jenkins, and participating in master classes with the Juilliard's Brian Zeger.

DEAN BALIE

Dean Balie graduated from Stellenbosh University in 2010 with university nominations for various roles. After he was cast in *Cabaret*, directed by Marthinus Basson, he made his professional debut in the Maynardville production of *Antony & Cleopatra* and followed that up with *Die Kortstondige Raklewe van Anasasia W* at the Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunsfees and Aardklop, for which he received a Fiesta nomination for Best Supporting Actor. In his third year at Stellenbosch he travelled to the Netherlands to workshop *Rhinoerotics* for the Big5Fesival. Dean won a Fleur Du Cap award for Best Actor in a Musical for his role as Kat Diamond in David Kramer and Taliep Petersen's *Kat and the Kings* in 2013.

EPHRAIM GORDON

Ephraim graduated from the University of Cape Town in 2009 with a degree in Theatre and Performance. The following year he joined Magnet Theatre and was part of a number of critically acclaimed plays, such as *Die Vreemdeling* and *Kragbox*. Ephraim is a recipient of the Brett Goldin Memorial Trophy. In 2009, Ephraim received a Fleur du Cap nomination for Most Promising Student, followed by a 2010 nomination for Best Actor at Aardklop as well as a nomination for Best Up and Coming Artist at the KykNet Fiestas. He was most recently seen in *Die Laaste Karretjiegraf*, written and directed by Athol Fugard.



ANDRÉA FRANKSON

Andréa Frankson hails from Kuils River in Cape Town and her introduction to the stage came at the tender age of 7 when she performed the role of Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*. After matriculating, she studied Political Science at the University of Stellenbosch. It was only after being a contestant on the reality television show, *High School Musical: South Africa*, that she decided to pursue a career in the performing arts. She went on to graduate in 2011 and has been in productions such as *Have you seen me?* and *My Life Reviewed*. *Blood Brothers* is her professional theatre debut.



MARLO MINNAAR MR LYONS, DOCTOR, TEACHER

Marlo completed his drama degree at the University of Stellenbosch. He was part of the Absa KKNK Kanna award winning ensemble cast of **Balbesit** and he received a Kanna nomination for his one-man show, ...Af. Marlo's musical theatre credits include the Marthinus Basson directed productions of **Cabaret** and **Die Kortstondige Raklewe van Anastasia W**. Marlo was a finalist in the SABC 1 reality show, **Class Act – South Africa's Toughest Film Audition** and he starred in the KykNet series **Die Boland Moorde**. He will soon be seen on the big screen in Ian Gabriel's **Four Corners**.



CARLO DANIELS SAMMY, ENSEMBLE

Carlo began his career on the streets of Cape Town whilst singing with friends and it was during this time that he realised what he wanted to do with his life. Carlo started acting with a local group, Kinders Van Die Ses, and was taught the intricacies of acting as well as the process of vocal training. He was a member of SHY, a group that performed at private functions, fundraisers and self-scripted events. Carlo then moved on and appeared in the *Madame Zingara Cabaret Show*, and followed that up with a role in David Kramer's *Some Like It Vrot* and was subsequently cast as Ballie in *Kat And The Kings*.



MONIQUE ROCKMAN ENSEMBLE, LINDA SWING

Monique obtained a national certificate in drama at Northlink College in 2007 and subsequently attended Saturday Varsity to further her Shakespearean training. In 2009 she starred in **Prison Codes** as well as **Coconuts and Marullas**. The following year, Monique joined the Baxter Theatre's Lilliput Players and The Cape Heart Theatre Company and soon after that she toured the Western Cape with **Are We Ready**, a show promoting the 2010 Soccer World Cup. Monique can also be seen in the local film, **Tussen As En Hoop**.



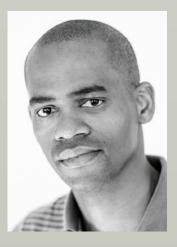


"TELL ME IT'S NOT TRUE. SAY IT'S JUST A STORY"



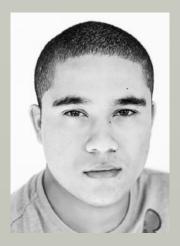
SUE PYLER DONNA MARIE, ESTATE AGENT, ENSEMBLE

Sue is known by radio listeners as the host of RSG's youth arts show, **Befonk**. Her radio experience started at community radio stations EdenFM in the Southern Cape and **AFM** in Cape Town. She has performed at various festivals such as the Suidoosterfees in Cape Town, the KKNK in Oudtshoorn, Aardklop in Potchefstroom and the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown. **Blood Brothers** is her professional musical theatre debut.



JUNAID BOOYSEN POLICE, HP MAN, CONDUCTOR, COUNCILLOR

Junaid Booysen won a Laurence Olivier Award for his performance in the original production of *Kat and the Kings* which included runs on the West End and Broadway. Junaid later joined the cast of David Kramer and Taliep Petersen's *Poison* and *Klop-Klop*. He has appeared in numerous television shows such as *Ali Baber, Transito* and *Malan en Kie.*



SHADLEY SCHROEDER HAWKER, KID, WARDER, ENSEMBLE

Shadley Schroeder is a recent matriculant from the College of Cape Town, where he specialized in marketing, but his passion for acting, singing and dancing has not waned since he was a seven year old boy. His childhood consisted of performing in the Cape Malay Choirs, variety concerts at school and community theatre. Shadley will soon be seen in cinemas in *Four Corners. Blood Brothers* is his professional theatre debut.



EDITH PLAATJIES ENSEMBLE

Edith Plaatjies has been in the music industry for 12 years. She studied music at Prompt, where she did vocal training, guitar and drums. She has performed backup vocals for various local and international artists such as Diana Ross, Josh Groban, Jonathan Butler, Judith Sephuma, Percy Sledge, Wanda Baloyi, PJ Powers, Mynie Grove, Emo Adams, Luqmaan Adams, Camillo Lombard, Vicky Sampson, Karin Kortjie, Mady and many more. Edith's theatre credits include *Radio Classics* with David Kramer and Alistair Izobell as well as *Slick Swing* with Alistair Izobell. Edith believes that music brings love, light and dance to one's soul.







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Marketing Manager Tracy Cahill

Electronic Marketing **Dylan Sage**

Stage Manager Progress Mphande

Front of House Host Willard Chipfiko

Box Office William Haycock

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Executive Director
Daniel Galloway

Financial Director **Stephen Sacks**

Accounts

Vanessa Sacks

Theatre Manager Lamees Albertus

Bar Manager and Accounts Assitant **Ronel Botha**

Office & Events Assistant **Nicole Daniels**

Graphic Designer James Cooke

PIETER TOERIEN'S MONTECASINO THEATRE

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Admin Manager Geraldine Swanepoel

Assistant to Mr Toerien JHB **Mark Sage**

Front of House Manager & Theatrics Club **Darryl Evans**

Housekeeping **Gladys Makuwa**

Senior Stage Manager Francois Van Der Hoven

Stage Manager **Richard Nkosi**

ASM Christopher Ndlovu

Front of House Manager **Iris Bolton**

Box Office Manager
Ingrid Stemmert

Resident Technical Stage Manager **Benjamin du Plessis**

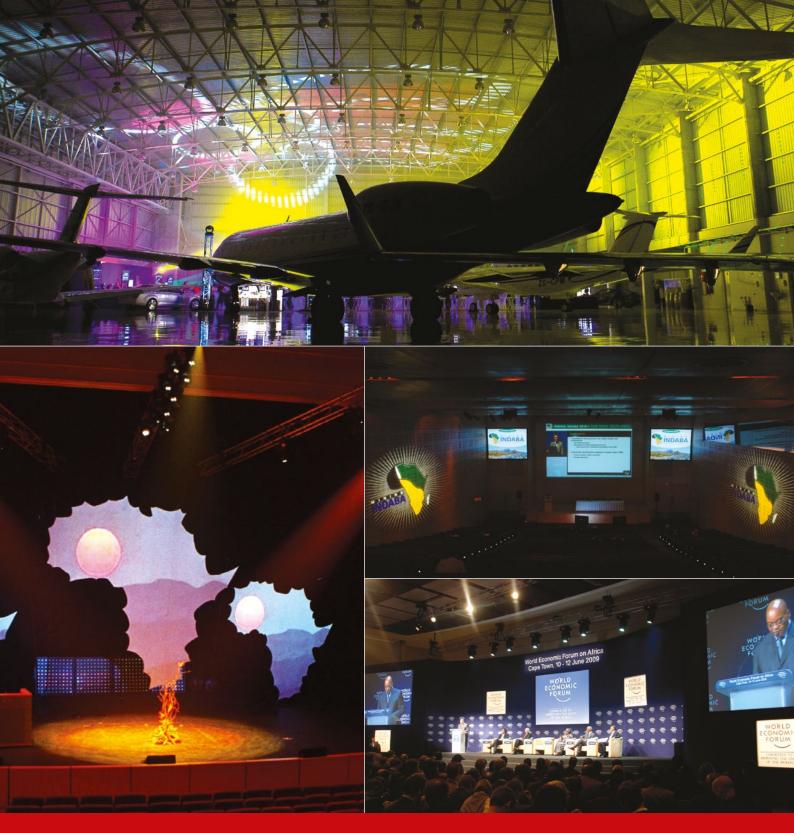
Assistant Technical Stage Manager **Clynt Hlubi**

Technical Assistant Achmat Khroodien

Bar Duty Manager **Olivier Lekada**

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