

ERIC ABRAHAM PRESENTS A FUGARD THEATRE PRODUCTION

ATHOL FUGARD'S THE PAINTED ROCKS AT REVOLVER CREEK



THE
FUGARD
THEATRE • CAPE TOWN
— STUDIO —



A NOTE FROM ATHOL FUGARD

I first became aware of Nukain Mabusu's achievement some ten years ago and, thanks to the efforts of the artist JFC Clarke who is largely responsible for making Nukain's work accessible to the wider world, I managed to encounter Nukain's astonishing painted rocks online. I immediately realised that he was an outsider artist like Helen Martins of Nieu Bethesda, celebrated in *The Road to Mecca*. Like many of my other plays, *The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek* was in my notebooks for many years before it finally landed up on the stage, the few facts then known to me about the Nukain who walked this earth germinating and transforming to reflect the man who now walks the stage. I am no biographer. Yet it is my hope that this play succeeds in capturing a truth of a different kind, about the past, but also about the future.

And in ways that are only becoming gradually clear to me, *The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek* also explores issues very close to me as a person. How does an artist confront what he knows could be his last work? How does one come to terms with the fact that what we fought so hard for, a peaceful end to those terrifying apartheid years, has left so many scars and still-open wounds?

This is the second production of *The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek*, the first being our recent staging at the Signature Theatre in New York. A year later, our experience with this play at the Fugard Theatre is one of the highlights of my directing career. It is so clear to me that this play now lives where it belongs: in South African bodies on South African soil.

This play carries a dedication: For Nukain, for inspiration. For Paula, for provocation.



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CAST

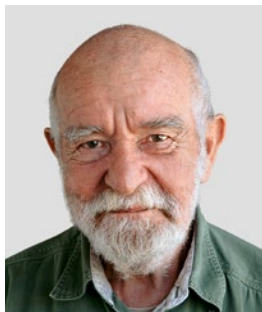
Elmarie Kleynhans **Anna-Mart van der Merwe**
Nukain **Tshamano Sebe**
Jonathan Sejake **Sne Dladla**
Bokkie **Likho Mango,
Siya Jantjie**

PRODUCTION

Producer **Eric Abraham**
Co-Producer **Daniel Galloway**
Associate Producers **Lamees Albertus
Greg Karvellas**
Writer, Director **Athol Fugard**
Co-Director **Paula Fourie**
Set Design **Saul Radomsky**
Costume Design **Birrie le Roux**
Lighting Design **Mannie Manim**
Sound Design **Charl-Johan Lingenfelder**
Associate Set Designer **Rocco Poole**

Wardrobe Supervisor **Widaad Albertus**
Production Manager **Roberto Grove**
Technical Manager **Ben du Plessis**
Stage Manager **Juanita van Wyk**
Assistant Stage Manager **Shawn Crow**
Sound Supplier **Eastern Acoustics**
Set Construction **Gerhard Morkel
Carl Gersbach
(for CHG Engineering)**
Scenic Painting, Production assistant **Koos Marais**
Pre Production photography **Daniel Rutland
Manners**
Production Photography **Jesse Kate Kramer**
Publicity **Allison Foat**





ATHOL FUGARD

Writer, Director

Athol Fugard is a renowned playwright, director and occasional actor. He was born in 1932 in Middelburg, in the Karoo desert region of South Africa. He has written close to forty plays, four books and several screenplays. His plays include *Blood Knot*, *Boesman and Lena*, *"Master Harold" . . . and the Boys*, *The Road to Mecca*, *The Train Driver*, *The Blue Iris* and *The Shadow of the Hummingbird*. Many of Athol's works have been turned into films: *Tsotsi*, based on his 1980 novel of the same name, won the 2005 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. Athol's work spans the period of apartheid in South Africa, through the first democratic elections and Nelson Mandela's presidency, and into present-day, post-apartheid South Africa. The recipient of many honorary doctorates and awards, Athol was awarded the prestigious Praemium Imperiale global arts prize for Theatre/Film by the Japan Art Association in 2014. One of the most performed playwrights in the world, and South Africa's best-known playwright, Athol continues to direct and write plays at eighty-four. Although he still travels regularly, he regards his house in the Karoo village of Nieu Bethesda as his home, which he shares with his wife, Paula, and their dog, Jakkals.



PAULA FOURIE

Co-Director

Born in 1985 to a family in the diplomatic service, Paula Fourie spent the majority of her childhood in Europe and America, returning to South Africa without having witnessed firsthand the turbulent final years of apartheid. She went on to receive her BMus and MMus degrees from the University of Pretoria, the latter while working as a conductor for the Drakensberg Boys Choir. In 2013, she obtained her PhD from Stellenbosch University with a biography of South African musician, Taliep Petersen.

Paula's published academic work includes book reviews, interviews and journal articles. She is currently a research fellow at Africa Open: Institute for Music, Research and Innovation at Stellenbosch University. Paula has worked professionally in theatre with Athol Fugard since 2012, increasingly supporting him in his directorial responsibilities. In 2015, Athol Fugard's *The Shadow of the Hummingbird* – the opening scene of which was written by Paula with the use of Fugard's unpublished notebooks – won a Naledi Theatre Award for Best New South African Script. *The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek* is their fifth production together.



SAUL RADOMSKY

Set Design

Saul Radomsky qualified as a Fine Art teacher in South Africa before going to the UK to study Scenography. He has designed numerous productions in the UK, the West End, Broadway, Israel, Australia, Hong Kong, India and South America. Since returning permanently to South Africa, he received Fleur du Cap nominations for Best Set Design for ***Songbook***, ***Some Like it Vrot***, ***Die Laaste Karretjiegraf*** and ***The Shadow of the Hummingbird***. He won the FNB Vita Award, Best Set Design for David Kramer's ***Kat and the Kings***, and the Fleur du Cap Award, Best Set Design for Athol Fugard's ***The Bird Watchers***. Saul designed the Fugard Theatre's first Athol Fugard production, ***The Train Driver***, which transferred to the Hampstead Theatre in London.

More recently, Saul designed David Kramer's critically acclaimed ***Orpheus in Africa*** and the equally acclaimed Fugard Theatre production of ***Bad Jews*** – both of which received Fleur du Cap nominations for Best Set Design. ***The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek*** marks Saul's fifth major collaboration with Athol Fugard.



MANNIE MANIM

Lighting Design

Co-founder of The Market Theatre, Mannie Manim, has been involved in theatre since 1956. He served as MD of The Market Theatre Company from 1973 – 1991; Director of Performing Arts Administration at Wits University from 1991 – 2000; Director and CEO of the Baxter Theatre from 2000 – 2009, and Executive Director of the Fugard Theatre in 2010. He founded his own company, Mannie Manim Productions, in 1991 which he continues to run as MD. Mannie has lit every first production of an Athol Fugard play in South Africa since 1977 and produced most of them.

Mannie was made Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres by the French Government (1990). His many other accolades include: the South African Institute of Technology Award for Outstanding Achievement as Technician, Administrator and Lighting Designer (1981); 10 Vita Awards for best Lighting Design; a Gold Medal for Theatre Development from the South African Academy of Arts and Science (1996), a Naledi Lifetime Achievement Award (2004); a Fleur du Cap Lifetime Achievement Award (2011), an Arts and Culture Trust Lifetime Achievement Award (2011), and the National Order of Ikhamanga in Silver (2011).



BIRRIE LE ROUX

Costume Design

Birrie le Roux is a renowned South African theatre and film designer. She started her career studying Theatre Design in Pretoria, and moved to Cape Town in the early 1980s where she worked at the Space Theatre, gaining experience and making a contribution to the protest theatre of the time. Birrie's work as a costume designer has been seen in cities all over the world. She won the Fleur du Cap Award for Best Costume Design for David Kramer's 2015 musical, ***Orpheus in Africa***, and was nominated in the same category for ***Die Seemeeu***.

Most recently, Birrie designed costumes for Lara Foot's acclaimed new play ***The Inconvenience of Wings*** and Janni Younge's ***The Firebird***, a puppet and dance performance set to Stravinsky's original score. ***The Firebird*** enjoyed successful runs at the Artscape Theatre and at the Grahamstown National Arts Festival, and has just completed its American tour. In 2015, Birrie designed costumes for the Fugard Theatre's production of ***West Side Story***, which transfers to the Mandela Theatre in Johannesburg in 2017.



CHARL-JOHAN LINGENFELDER

Sound Design

Charl-Johan Lingenfelder studied Musicology, Drama and Classical Culture at the University of Stellenbosch, and Cinematic Orchestration through TimeSpace, London. He is an award-winning actor, musical director, composer and producer, and has written original music for over 100 South African plays, television programmes and films.

Over the past three years, Charl has composed music for ***One Arm***, ***Emotional Creature***, ***Desire Under The Elms***, ***Lady Aoi***, ***Dogma***, ***Die Seemeeu***, ***Othello***, ***A Doll's House***, ***Wie Is Bang Vir Virginia Woolf*** and ***The Tragedy of Hamlet***, and was musical director for ***Emotional Creature***, ***The Rocky Horror Show***, ***Orpheus in Africa***, and ***Cabaret***. Most recently, he musically directed and conducted the Fugard Theatre's production of ***West Side Story*** at the Artscape Opera House. Charl has received over 20 award nominations for his work as musical director and composer. He is currently the Resident Musical Director at the Fugard Theatre.



ANNA-MART VAN DER MERWE

Elmarie Kleynhans

Anna-Mart van der Merwe is an award-winning bilingual actress, best known for her leading roles in numerous television series. She received a Performer's Diploma in Speech and Drama from the University of Cape Town in 1986, and after a two-year stint with PACT at the Windybrow Theatre in Johannesburg, began freelancing. She starred in television series such as *Sonkring*, *Torings*, *Konings*, *Sewende Laan* and *Binnelanders*.

Anna-Mart's film credits include Katinka Heyns' *The Storie van Klara Viljee* (1992), *Die Ongelooflike Avonture van Hanna Hoekom* (2010) and *Stuur groete aan Mannetjies Roux* (2013). Filming begins shortly for her next production, *Dis Koue Kos, Skat*, based on Marita van der Vyver's book by the same title. Anna-Mart's theatre highlights include, *The Seagull* and *Uit die Bloute*, directed by Ilse van Hemert, *Oom Wanja*, *Twaalfde Nag* and *Begeerte*, directed by Janice Honeyman, and *God of Carnage* directed by Alan Swerdlow. Most recently, she performed in The Market Theatre's production of Athol Fugard's *People are Living There*.



TSHAMANO SEBE

Nukain

Born in Soweto, Tshamano Sebe's first encounter with theatre was in 1976. He was trained by the playwright Alpheos Siebane and later became a founding member of the Soyikwa African Theatre group. Based in Berlin in the 1980s, Tshamano learnt German. A number of plays followed: ***Der Kampf des Negers*** (Münchener Kammerspiele), ***Der Auftrag*** (Schiller Theater Berlin) and ***Haifische und Andere Menschen*** (Münchener Kammerspiele), to name a few.

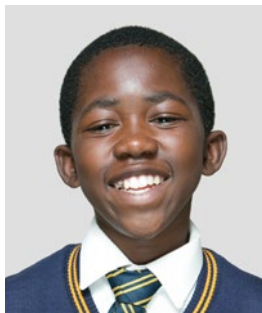
After his return to South Africa in 1993, Tshamano starred in ***"Master Harold"... and the Boys*** – for which he won the Fleur du Cap and FNB Vita Award for Best Actor –, ***Jesus Hopped the A Train*** – for which he received a Fleur du Cap nomination for Best Actor – and the musical, ***District Six***. He has featured in a number of local and international films, including ***Mandela and De Clerk***, ***The White Lioness***, ***Jozi H*** and ***Of Good Report***, and is well-known as the character Biza in the SABC 2 hit television series ***Stokvel***, winning many awards during the 10-year run.



SNE DLADLA

Jonathan Sejake

Sne Dladla is a two-time Fleur du Cap Award-winning actor and performer. During his years at Rhodes University, he performed in the Eastern Cape Opera Company and later joined the Eastern Cape Drama Theatre company, UBOM. He has performed and created works with Nicholas Ellenbogen – a collaboration that won him his first Fleur du Cap. In 2014 he joined the SAFTA award-winning ZANEWS as a puppeteer, voice artist and writer, for which he recently received a Best Supporting Actor nomination. Sne opened at the Baxter Theatre for Nik Rabinowitz's ***What the EFF?*** and performed his first one-man comedy show, ***The Joke's on You***, which won him a Silver Ovation Award at the National Arts Festival. Sne recently performed in David Kramer's musical, ***Orpheus in Africa*** as one of the comic duos, and in ***District Six – Kanala***.

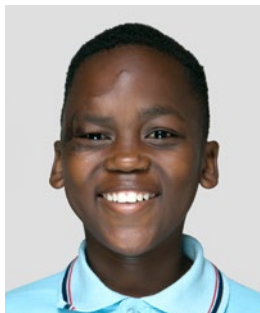


LIKHO MANGO

Bokkie

Likho Mango was born in 2002, the second of four children. He attended Prestwich Primary School in Green Point, and is currently in Grade 8 at Trafalgar High School. Likho has been involved in drama since primary school where he started to take drama classes. He enjoys public speaking, soccer and singing. Likho's first acting role was as Jomo in the BBC series *Our Girl 2*. Thereafter, he played the part of Vusi in the Mzansi Magic film, *Isikizi*. ***The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek*** is Likho's first professional theatre role.

* Likho will perform every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evening at 8pm.



SIYA JANTJIE

Bokkie

Siya Jantjie is 11 years old and is in Grade 5 at Forres Preparatory School in Rondebosch. Siya loves to perform on stage and off, enjoys music, drama and dance and is also a very keen soccer player. At school Siya plays piano and marimba and sings in the choir. Outside of school he attends the Waterfront Theatre School where he studies tap dancing, modern dancing, drama and musical theatre. Siya has performed in numerous Waterfront Theatre School shows as well as Musical Theatre Workshop performances in the holidays. ***The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek*** marks Siya's first professional performance and he is loving every minute.

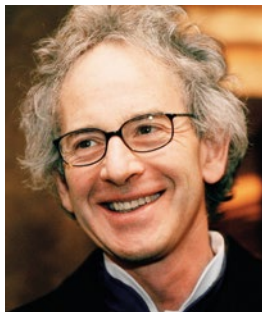
* Siya will perform every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 8pm and Saturday afternoon at 4pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The bulk of the writing of ***The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek*** took place under the umbrella of STIAS (Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study), whose secluded environment and generous support proved invaluable. This play is also indebted to the work of JFC Clarke in documenting Nukain Mabusa's achievements, as well as to that of Dirk Hermann and Chris van Zyl, who compiled the thought-provoking book, *Treurgroend*.

SPECIAL THANKS

David Waddilove of Oaklands Farm, Forres Preparatory School.



ERIC ABRAHAM

Producer

Eric Abraham is a South African-born film, television and theatre producer. He is best known for producing two Oscar-winning films *Kolya* (Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film 1996 directed by Jan Sverak) and *Ida* (Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film 2014 directed by Pawel Pawlikowski). Both films won multiple other awards including for *Kolya* the Golden Globe and for *Ida* a BAFTA and Best European Film award and are two of the most widely seen foreign language films in the last twenty years. He is also known for producing the British family classic film – Roald Dahl's *Danny, the Champion of the World*, starring Jeremy Irons and a host of British stars. Aside from producing and commissioning new work for the Fugard Theatre his West End and London stage credits include: the 2008 Olivier Award-winning *The Magic Flute/Impempe Yomlingo* (Paris Crystal Globe for Best Opera) and Christopher Hampton's *Embers* featuring Jeremy Irons. He commissioned and underwrote The Fugard Theatre becoming its Founding Producer.

THE FUGARD THEATRE

Founding and Executive Producer

Eric Abraham

Executive Director

Daniel Galloway

Financial Director

Stephen Sacks

Theatre Manager & Associate Producer

Lamees Albertus

General Manager & Associate Producer

Greg Karvellas

Financial Manager

Ronel Botha

Payroll and Accounts

Vanessa Sacks

Front of House Manager

Iris Bolton

Box Office Manager

Ingrid Stemmert

Technical Manager

Benjamin du Plessis

Production Manager

Roberto Grové

Graphic Designer

James Cooke

Media & AV

Daniel Rutland Manners

Office & Events Assistant

Kyle Alexander

Resident Musical Director

Charl-Johan Lingenfelder

Resident Stage Manager

Juanita van Wyk

Resident Deputy Stage Manager

Shayna Gleave

Resident Assistant Stage Manager

Ulibo Maake

Wardrobe Supervisor &

Production Assistant

Widaad Albertus

Assistant Technical Stage Managers

Clynt Hlubi

Achmat Khroodien

Technical Assistant

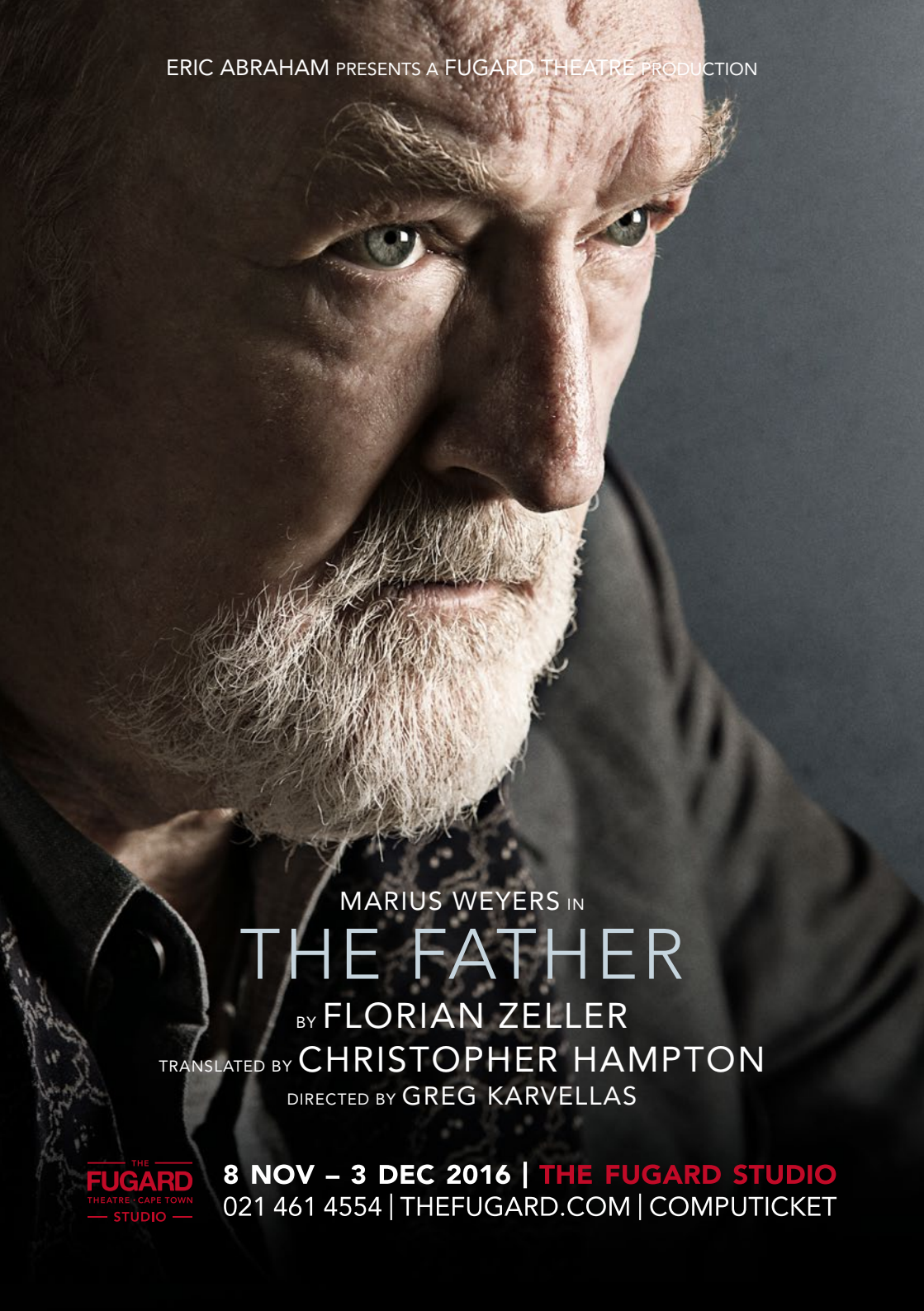
Angelo Peterson

Bar Manager

Olivier Lekada

Bar Duty Manager

Dorsaint Katumpa



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MARIUS WEYERS IN
THE FATHER

BY FLORIAN ZELLER

TRANSLATED BY CHRISTOPHER HAMPTON

DIRECTED BY GREG KARVELLAS

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