

# 2<sup>nd</sup> GLOBAL SUMMIT ON DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS



**PERFORMANCES**  
**11 - 13 DECEMBER 2024**  
**CAPE TOWN**



**Monday 9th December and  
Wednesday 11 December  
Afro Vibez Dance Ensemble**

The ensemble features exceptionally talented musicians and dancers who excel in authentic African performances, presenting a breathtaking array of traditional South African percussion and movements.

The group's captivating display showcases the dynamic dance styles of traditional Xhosa and Zulu cultures, harmoniously accompanied by an array of percussive instruments that beautifully intertwine with rich vocal harmonies, elevating the true essence of African music and dance.

The rhythm and dance are infused with the enchanting sounds of the musical uhadi bow, a treasured instrument of the Xhosa-speaking communities primarily located in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa.

This resonant gourd-string instrument delivers a powerful blend of rhythm, melody, and harmony through the enchanting vibrations of its single string.



**Wednesday 11th December**

**Opera Students' Ensemble**

**Programme:**

**'Kuwe mthombo wengoma'**  
composed by  
**Ntuthuko Sibisi**

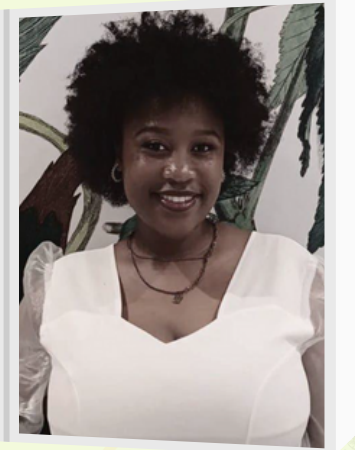
**'Ushелеle'**  
composed by  
**Dominic Gamedze**

**'Wasikhethela ifa'**  
composed by  
**Qinisela Sibisi**



**Wednesday 11th December**

## **Opera Students' Ensemble**



**Buhle Swelindawo is a Mezzosoprano from Cape Town. She started her singing career at the age of 14 at the Pinelands High School.**

**She is currently studying at the University of Cape Town and is doing a BMus in Opera studies and is under the guidance of Professor Patrick Tikolo.**

**She was a chorus member at the UCT's staging of the world premiere of Gaetano Donizetti's "Dalinda."**



**Sisa Mjekula, born in Butterworth, Eastern Cape, is completing his undergraduate studies at OperaUCT under the tutelage of Mr Sipho Fubesi. He has garnered notable recognition in 2024, winning the "Music of Note" prize at the FoCTO Bursary Competition and securing second place in the Aria Prize at the Aviva Pelham Operetta Competition.**

**Sisa was a finalist in the 23rd Schock Foundation Prize Competition. His operatic repertoire includes impressive roles such as 2nd Rake in "Sarah Baartman" by Hendrik Hofmeyr, a chorus ensemble member in Handel's "Alcina," Schemil in Offenbach's "Tales of Hoffman," Marchese in Verdi's "La Traviata," and Corboga in Donizetti's "Dalinda," showcasing his versatile talent and dedication to the art of opera.**



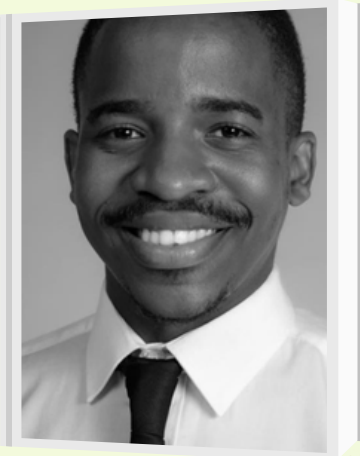
**Thandolwethu Longo has performed in various places across Cape Town and has won competitions like Western Cape Choral Music Association in 2021 and won Cape Town Summer Star competition in 2022. Has formed part of Cape Town Opera's foundation studio.**

**Currently a student at the University of Cape Town doing his BMus in Opera studies under the tutelage of Professor Patrick Tikolo, in which he did a role of Cochenille in Tales of Hoffman by Jacques Offenbach (2023) then 2024 did Garniero from the long-lost Opera by Gaetano Donizetti called Dalinda. Recently just Won Schock foundation competition.**



# Wednesday 11th December

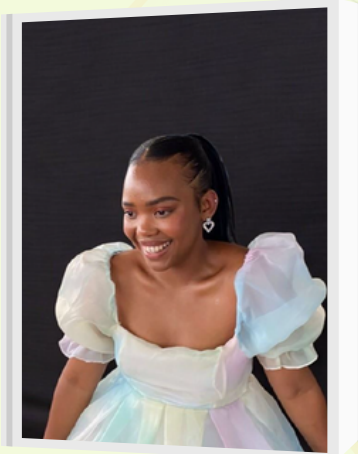
## Opera Students' Ensemble



Baritone opera singer Themba Mdlalose hails from the Kingdom of Eswatini. His active involvement in school choirs' competitions sparked his interest in opera. He thereafter went on to compete and win numerous solo competitions both locally and within the Southern African region.

The Voices of South Africa International Opera Singing Competition in 2020 stands out as the one in which he won first prize in the under-22 age category. Themba earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science with a major in economics and political science from the University of Eswatini, where he completed his studies. He served as the institution's choir's music director while he was a student.

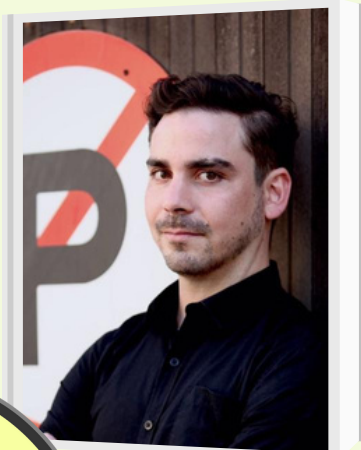
Owing to his intense passion, love and enthusiasm for opera, he enrolled at the University of Cape Town for opera undergraduate studies under the guidance of Ms. Violina Anguelov Hobbs, where he has since performed the role of Ridolfo in Opera UCT's world premiere production of Gaetano Donizetti's long-lost opera Dalinda.



Thembelihle Sokhaba is an aspiring Soprano from Cape Town, studying Opera at the University of Cape Town under the guidance of Associate Professor Patrick Tikolo.

She has always had a passion for singing and started classically training at the age of 13. She has had many opportunities to perform and showcase her voice, including being a part of the chorus for Handel's Alcina (2022) and Offenbach's Les Conte d'Hoffman (2023).

Recently, she has had the opportunity to perform scenes as Pamina from Mozart's Der Zauberflöte.



David Lubbe is a dexterous piano accompanist and vocal coach who studied piano performance at Stellenbosch University.

He is an active accompanist across Cape Town and collaborates with many vocalists, instrumentalists, and ensembles across various musical genres.

David has a passion for South African works and recent projects include the first ever isiXhosa Requiem written by Litha Jali and Mzilikazi Khumalo's Oratorio "uShaka".



**Wednesday 11th December**

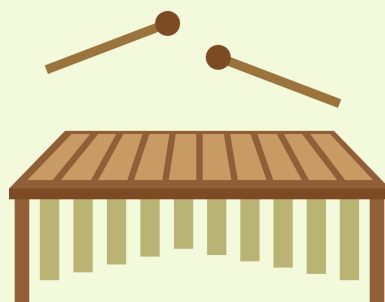
**Thabisa Dinga, Keketso Bolofo & Friends**

Thabisa Dinga and her band bring together a vibrant fusion of academic and artistic excellence, featuring talented musicians who are postgraduate students from the University of Cape Town.

Their performances celebrate the richness of African musical heritage, incorporating traditional sub-Saharan instruments alongside the iconic uhadi, mbira, marimba, and umrhubhe bows.

Blending these timeless sounds with contemporary elements, the ensemble reimagines African traditions in a modern context.

Their music is a captivating journey through the diverse soundscapes of the continent, offering an experience that honors cultural roots while embracing creative innovation.



**Thursday 12th December**

**The Foreshadow Sextet**



The Foreshadow Sextet is a jazz band formed by six musicians from different parts of Africa who met while studying at the South African College of Music.

With roots in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and South Africa, each member brings their own cultural flavour to the mix, but all share a deep love for jazz.

The band's sound blends African rhythms, soulful melodies, and the improvisational spirit of jazz, creating a fresh, unique take on the genre. Known for their high-energy performances and tight musical chemistry, The Foreshadow Sextet brings a new voice to contemporary jazz.

Their music is a dynamic fusion of African influences and classic jazz elements, driven by creativity and a passion for spontaneous expression.

**Thursday 12th December  
Set list**



Cheek to cheek - Irving Berlin  
Monwabisi - Bheki Mseleku  
Girl From Ipanema - Tom Jobim  
Yakhal Inkomo - Winston Mankunku  
Click song - Miriam Makeba

Grazing in the grass - Harry Elston  
Ntylo Ntylo - Sibongile Khumalo  
Doo be doo - Freshly Ground  
Feel Good - Lira  
Meadowlands  
Pata Pata - Miriam Makeba