



## THE GUGULETHU TENORS



Afro-operatic pop sensations The Gugulethu Tenors have become a household name in South Africa since the release of their self-titled debut album in 2011. They have performed at some of SA's top events and festivals, shared stages with local and international headliners, and been featured extensively in local and international media, whilst their fan base continues to expand, covering a wide and diverse audience.

Their journey to success, which started more than 10 years ago as four high school learners' respective dreams of being on stage, has been widely publicised and serves as an inspiration to many.

Performance highlights include representing SA during the 2010 FIFA World Cup, captivating thousands at Cape Town's FanFests with their soothing harmonies and remarkable voices, boasting standing-ovations at festivals like ABSA KKNK, Aardklop Arts Festival, Cultivaria and Klein Karoo Klassique to name a few, wowing corporate audiences across the country, and performing to politicians, dignitaries and superstars including Oprah Winfrey, Chris Rock and Mariah Carey.

### **Humble Beginnings**

These self-taught vocalists, Mpendulo Yawa, Siyabulela Gqola, Xolani November and Loyiso Dlova, were selected from scores of hopeful entries at Fezeka High School in Gugulethu to enter a music competition called the Prompt Voice Search. They won first place for the best group category and have never looked back. They went on to win various other local competitions, and today this four-piece - who have been described as "South Africa's Il Divo", "Pavarotti's Children" and "the Diamond of the Township" - are living their dream and enchanting the concert halls and corporate stages of South Africa with their collective song.

### **Afro-Opera**

While their peers enjoy Kwaito, Hip Hop and Rap, the Gugulethu Tenors pursue their inherent love of Opera, a genre which is not traditionally associated with the township. By incorporating contemporary and subtle ethnic elements in their music, they have made the genre their own, capturing the hearts of audiences across South Africa and beyond with their raw talent. Their repertoire includes operatic favourites such as O Sole Mio,

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Nessun Dorma and Nella Fantasia, as well as popular songs like The Prayer, Miriam Makeba's Pata Pata and even Gé Korsten's Liefing. Their original compositions like O Afrika! and Nyamezela have audiences on their feet at every performance. The Gugulethu Tenors' ambition goes beyond success as performers – collectively they aim to be role models for South Africa's youth and, through their singing, to showcase the richness and diversity of South Africa's cultural heritage.

### **Releases**

- Audio CD: order the Tenor's **self-titled Debut Album**
- Music Video: **Watch Nyamezela** on YouTube

### **SOUTH AFRICAN NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCES**

The Gugulethu Tenors have performed at numerous prestigious events in South Africa, including:

- Huisgenoot Skouspel
- Pendoring Awards
- KKNK Kanna Awards
- Die Burger Pops
- World Chefs Tour Against Hunger Gala Dinner
- Fleur de Cap Theatre Awards
- Mr South Africa Final
- FIFA FanFest and Fan Walks
- Table of Peace and Unity
- Cape Town International Jazz Festival
- African National Congress Gala
- Oprah party
- Nederburg Wine Auction
- 2011 Freedom to Create Prize Award Ceremony and Concert
- L'Ormarins Queen's Plate
- Vodacom Journalist of the Year Awards
- Kirstenbosch Carols by Candlelight
- Kirstenbosch Winter Concert Series
- FW de Klerk Foundation Gala Dinner
- World AIDS Day @ Parliament
- **Festivals** such as ABSA KKNK, Aardklop National Arts Festival, Paarl Cultivaria Festival, Vryfees, Cederberg Festival, Klein Karoo Klassique, Varing Festival, Greyton Rose Festival, Ubuntu Festival, Cape Town Festival, TOPS Gugulethu Wine Festival
- **Public performances** at venues such as Oude Libertas Amphitheatre, On Broadway Theatre, Artscape Arena, V & A Waterfront, Boardwalk, PE, Ushaka, Durban, Joburg Theatre, Farmyard Theatre, Polokwane

### **MEDIA**

The Gugulethu Tenors have enjoyed substantial features on all SA's major TV magazine programmes, in all important print media (magazines, newspapers – English and Afrikaans), on radio and on the internet.

### **TELEVISION**

In-depth features on:

- Jou Show Met Emo

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- Showbiz Report
- Top Billing
- Espresso Morning Show
- KykNet Glitterati
- Sky News Worldwide
- E-TV Sunrise Breakfast Show
- All Access
- Top TV Gospel
- Spirit Sundae
- Pasella
- And many more!

#### **NEWSPAPER**

Substantial coverage in:

- Weekend Argus (The Good Weekend)
- Sunday Sun
- Vukani
- Die Burger
- Volksblad
- The PE Herald
- City Vision
- Cape Argus
- The Mercury
- Daily Sun
- Die Beeld
- The Star
- And many more!

#### **MAGAZINES**

Extensive articles and reviews in:

- Sawubona SAA in-flight magazine
- Get it! Magazine
- Vrouekeur Magazine
- Khuluma Magazine
- Lewis Club
- Tuis/ Home

#### **RADIO**

In-studio interviews and radio-play on:

- SAFM
- OFM
- Fine Music Radio
- CCFM
- Algoa FM

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- SABC Weekend Live
- Cape Talk Radio
- Good Hope FM
- Bush Radio
- Umhlobo Wenene FM
- Helderberg Radio
- Whale Coast FM
- Radio 2000
- The Taxi
- East Coast Radio
- The World (PRI's BBC)

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