



Film
Dance
Music
Drama
Technical Studies
Arts Management

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Alex Arts Academy in partnership with Arts Alive present:

Current Affairs Theatre Festival

A theatre festival reflecting on events and life in a time of the Covid-19 pandemic, through the lens of the youth from Alexandra.

After recently hosting a successful policy conference for Gauteng community arts centres in partnership with the National Department of Sports Arts and Culture, Gauteng Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, and the City of Joburg through Arts Alive Festival, Alex Arts Academy is excited to be partnering yet again with the City of Joburg's flagship festival; Arts Alive Festival to present; Current Affairs Theatre Festival.

Since its inception in February 2019, after being developed by well-known arts administrator, actor, director and activist Mr. Mpho J Molepo, Alexandra Arts Academy has grown in leaps and bounds not only by nurturing young minds and empowering future generation artists, but also by partnering with leading arts institutions, arts organisations and practitioners alike. It is through this partnership with Arts Alive, which has been growing from strength to strength, that the academy is in a position to present Current Affairs Theatre Festival.

The festival will take place over three days (23rd – 25th October), at Alexsan Resource Centre in Alexandra. Ten (10) productions will be presented over the three days, with three productions on the 23rd starting at 15:00, five productions on the 24th starting at 11:00, and two productions on the 25th of October starting at 13:00, respectively. The stories told by ten directors, ten assistant directors and ten actors will take the audience through varied and alternated journeys that our youth went through since the declaration of the Disaster Management Act of 2002. The stories will be looking at Covid-19 from different perspectives, stories of love, despair, anger, displacement, happiness, isolation, community, fear and hope. The 10 productions have been in rehearsals since early September and we are thrilled to be sharing them with the community of Alexandra and beyond.

The festival also serves as an incubation and mentorship program as student directors have been given an opportunity to work with established directors to learn from them. The directing process is set up in a way that allows for learning to take place, knowledge to be shared and as a platform for assistant directors to experiment and learn first-hand during rehearsals, all through the trajectory into the presentation. We have also cast our full-time students as actors in these productions as we prepare and transition them from students of the arts into the professional world. We are happy that this two-month programme will not

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Managing Director: Mr Moses D Rasekele Business Development Manager: Mr Mpho J Molepo



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only come out with ten productions, but a group of 23 students who would have gone through a process of mentorship and hands-on production in acting and directing.

“The festival is an opportunity for our students to experiment, be mentored and transition into the industry... the two month mentorship programme is meant to give them hands-on experience in theatre making production processes”. Moses Rasekele D, Festival Coordinator.

Current Affairs Theatre Festival Programme

Day One

The Public Defender

Directed by Avril Mkansi, assisted by Lerato Miyambo, Performed by Eugene Banda

UBungoma

Directed by Masiza Mbali, assisted by Mpendulo Mkungo and Mmamekgwa Masopa, performed by Khanyisile Dlamini.

Levels of Death.

Directed by Sanele Mzimela, assisted by Caroline Bungela, Performed by Siphelele Maseko.

Faceless

Directed by Matlakala Motaung, assisted by Ntombizonke Mncube and Jackie Rasehlomi, performed by Mike Dzova

Day Two

24th October 2020 (Saturday)

Locked-Voices:

Directed by Mpho Masilela, assisted by Pfunzo Tshililo, Performed by Bridget Mogano

Uyaphi?

Directed by Archie Matsetela, assisted by Lwazi Zungu, Performed by Kedibone Sekgobela

AT 19-YEAR-OLD

Directed by Thabile Tshabalala, assisted by Sisanda Ntatawe, Performed by Tshepang Ramasehla

Day Three

25th October 2020 (Sunday)

The Struggle

Directed by Siphon Manganyi and Xolani Sango, Performed by Simphiwe Jako

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365 Days Lock down

Directed by Masiza Mbali, assisted by Dineo Leputu, Performed by Hope Mampa.

Locked heart

Directed by Sarah Ntobela, assisted by Nomava Anatti Ndaba, Performed by Zanele Mbatha

“We are very excited with the partnership with Arts Alive because it gives our young learners an opportunity to be on stage and tell their stories... we are looking forward to sharing these passionate stories” Says Mr. Mpho Molepo, the Festival Director.

Dates: 23rd to 25th October 2020

Times: 15:00 – 18:00

Venues: Alex San Kopano

Issued by Tsholo Pelo Communications on behalf of Alex Arts Academy.

For more information and pictures please contact Otto Moloto on 0822200332 or email otto.moloto14@gmail.com



Alex
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“Nurturing Creatives”

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