

R375
PER LEARNER
(ENTRY TO 3 SHOWS)

14 SEPTEMBER
FRIDAY **033 383 0127**

Dear Teachers

Thank you for deciding to bring a group of your pupils to Jongosi this year – **14 September 2018**. I am sure they will all have a blast! This letter is to help you make choices and to prepare your pupils for what they are going to see. Please remember what the aims of Jongosi are:

- To introduce young people to quality theatre of all genres;
- To teach them that theatre entertains, educates and provokes discussion;
- To provide arts related activities / workshops between the shows they will be seeing. Please note that these are at no extra cost to you.
- To make the youth of today, the audiences of tomorrow.

The following productions have been selected as they represent as wide a range of subject matter and style of theatre. All are suitable for high school learners. I have indicated within each description those which are particularly suitable for the younger grades and those which are only suitable for higher grades. Certain productions will benefit from a quick lesson in the week preceding Jongosi . This will enhance your pupils understanding and enjoyment. For example in 2016, a lesson in the crueller apartheid laws such as Separate Development, Job Reservation and the Group Areas Act, were vital to the understanding of Sizwe Bansi is Dead. **Now, to 2018**

For those teachers bringing Grades 6 – 8, I suggest that your choices should be: Big Boys, Narrative Dreams and Hocus Pocus. All productions are suitable for Grades 9 to 12, except where specifically indicated. See my comments at the end of each description.

BOOKING PROCEDURES

Bookings open on **Monday 25th June 2018** via email only admin@hiltonfestival.co.za. Reservations can only be held for a few days so first come first served, whereupon you will be issued with an invoice. We accept neither cancellations nor refunds after invoice. Full payment is required within 7 days of invoice. Additional tickets may be booked dependant on availability. Ratio of staff complimentary tickets to school group size is 1 to 25. Venue capacities vary so book early. Ticket collections from the Box Office on or before the day. Each learner will be issued with a wristband so teachers please ensure your learners know which venues to go to. It is up to the teachers to ensure they get to their venues on time. Due to the nature of Festivals should a production run late please do not leave the venue area as **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE PERMITTED INTO THE VENUE AFTER THE DOORS HAVE CLOSED.**

PRODUCTIONS

Big Boys the Third 09h30 and 15h00

Reloaded, Rebooted and Re-invented. It's over and out after this!!! Ash and Brad Searle are back, directed by Vanessa Harris with their multi-award winning SA Comedy sensation. *Big Boys* has become known as a feel-good, energetic and refreshing piece that the whole family will enjoy. Ash and Brad invite the audience into their world of boyish banter as they prove that REAL.MEN. DANCE. This is on show that can't be missed!!

Join the dancing brothers, in the final instalment of this trilogy. Absurd antics, stylish dance outbreaks and some of their favourite moments from the past brought back and re-invented for this production. Last chance, peeps! Don't miss it. They'll have you screaming for more.

Sue's Comment

Sit back and be entertained. Suitable for all!

Comedy's Cool! 12h15

Three of the funniest and most successful comedians are taking you to school as they team up to share life experiences and some COOL TEEN LARFS! Join Rob van Vuuren, Jem Atkins and Kelvin Stoffels for hilarious stand-up comedy about the trials and tribulations of growing up, finding your place, and doing what you love in this crazy world of ours! 60 minutes of clean comedy!

There will be a 10 minute Q & A at the end where the audience can share their funniest school moments.

Sue's Comment

Suitable for Grades 9 to 12. Absolutely no prep required! Please note these guys are parents of little people themselves. They understand what is suitable and what is unacceptable.

Die Reuk van Appels 09h30

Following sold-out performances and a sensational national tour (including the 2017 National Arts Festival's Main programme and The Fugard Theatre), the award-winning production *Die Reuk van Appels* will feature at the Hilton Arts Festival. Gideon Lombard stars in this stage adaptation of the acclaimed 1993 debut novel by South African author Mark Behr, telling the coming-of-age story of Marnus Erasmus, 11-year-old son of a South African Defence Force (SADF) general. It eloquently captures the Afrikaner mentality in the late 1970s and early 1980s and the brutal consequences of apartheid and militarisation of South African life. Since its premiere in July last year it has won numerous awards and won the Best Solo Performance at the Naledi Awards for 2018.

Sue's Comment

For Grades 11 and 12 only!!! – there is one scene containing NUDITY

It was the best performance I saw in Grahamstown last year. My Afrikaans is not brilliant, so concentration is essential. Ideal for anyone studying Afrikaans for matric. I suggest it would be worth reading the book in advance. A quick lesson on the atrocities committed by the SADF during the apartheid era is vital.

EWOK Live! 15h00

Ewok, aka, Iain Robinson, actually defies description, as does the hour long entertainment he will thrill your pupils with on Jongosi day. Suffice it to say, it will be brilliant, different, appealing to the teen generation, uber cool and mega fun. Expect a soulful Bap head-nodder, flavoured hip hop activism, slam poetry, spoken word performance, graffiti and aerosol art (perhaps!). As well as being a performer, Ewok is a highly respected educator in Durban, who has had a show commissioned by the prestigious Quick Centre in the USA. It went down a real treat, he tells me, specifically, in words I can understand!! Dear teachers, even if you are flummoxed, your pupils will be in the groove. Don't let them miss this opportunity.

Sue's Comment

He is brilliant, unique and a legend in his own time. His message will be serious and relevant, all wrapped in a style to which the youth relates. Suitable for all...even adults!

Green Man Flashing 12h15 & 15h00

International award winning South African playwright, Mike van Graan's brilliant play **GREEN MAN FLASHING** is a fast-paced political thriller written in a filmic style, written BEFORE Zuma came to power. It stars leading stage and television actors, **Litha Bam, Michelle Douglas, Kate Liquorish, Sechaba Morojele** with **David Dennis**.

It's essentially the story of white ANC loyalist Gabby, and Aaron, her black husband, who returned to South Africa from exile after the ANC stormed to power in 1994. As tensions rise ahead of the crucial next elections, Gabby is raped by her boss, a Cabinet minister with a strong support base in KwaZulu-Natal and tipped to become the next deputy president.

"Sound familiar? We never meet the politician, but you can probably hear his faint "hehehehe" giggle in your head. Jacob Zuma – sorry, the fictional character – is a dangerous man to cross, and if the allegations of rape were to go public, the political fallout would be huge... Ah yes, remember Khwesi". Lesley Stones, The Daily Maverick

The title refers to that moment on the pavement when the law says you have the right to walk, but the massive juggernaut bearing down on you ain't gonna stop. Do you demand your rights and step into danger, or quietly hold back?

It is acknowledged as a quintessential SA play, and has become a matric set work. It is regarded by many as a turning point for contemporary SA drama because of the way it dealt with contemporary politics. But it was also regarded as being more remarkable for anticipating the real life drama of the ANC Deputy President, Jacob Zuma, being linked to charges of corruption in the arms deal and then later charged with rape. Not to be missed!

Sue's Comment

Ideal for Grades 10 to 12. Make sure your pupils have followed current affairs over the past few years. Fill them in with a brief synopsis.

Hocus Pocus 09h30 & 12h15

For hundreds of years audiences have been entertained by magic and illusion. 2018 is no different as Brendon Peel astounds with his unique brand of mentalism and illusion. **Hocus Pocus** is a show filled with mysteries and tricks that will knock your socks off. Reality will be suspended as long as you remember the magic words – 'Hocus Pocus'.

This phenomenal piece of pure entertainment has been performed very widely in SA, as well as in Edinburgh, the world's leading arts festival. It has particular appeal to the younger generation.

Sue's Comment

Just see it and have fun! Suitable for all

James Cairns vs Humanity 12h15

This is Improvisation Theatre. What is "Improvisation Theatre ? – "it is a form of live theatre in which the plot, characters and dialogue of a game, scene or story are made up in the moment", as you go along. So every show is different and funny and sometimes quite outrageous, never boring. No-one, not even the performer, knows where the story will go. James will take suggestions from the audience but this is the extent of the audience participation. **No-one gets dragged onto stage and asked to be a giraffe.**

So in essence, it is James versus his audience ...only one of them walks out alive. With the help of 'Cards Against Humanity', Cairns gives us a solo improv right from the seat of his pants straight to the edge of your seats!

Now what else can we tell you? We would love to tell you what the plot is but it changes every show so we can't do that. The set not much; the costumes – whatever James chooses to wear in the morning.

OK then, last year's audiences – some came in not knowing what to expect and exited left laughing and with their sides aching. Others reckoned they knew all about this improv stuff and were cool until they cracked up. Some people couldn't be kept off the stage so keen were they to proffer their suggestions as the story and the tension and the laughter built but that was OK, they still weren't asked to be a giraffe !

Sue's Comment

See it and have fun! Suitable for all

Narrative Dreams 09h30

Two boys from different worlds, puzzle their way through the tumultuous, playful years of childhood life in search of friendship and acceptance. As Morena and David grow into adolescence, they try to make sense of the world into which they are moving, wondering whether they can ever realize their dreams.

The play explores the nature of childhood, a stage in life often described as utopian, full of wonder and endless jolliness. The boys challenge this notion and reveal aspects seldom seen in childhood: Loss, loneliness, longing and hardship. The boys also remind us of the resilience of youth, of the audacity to dream and transcend, to give and inspire.

Narrative Dreams is a play written by Lereko Mfono and directed by international award winning director and actor, Omphile Molusi. The play was developed through ASSITEJ South Africa's 'Inspiring a Generation' programme, where Lereko formed part of a selection of four young writers chosen to create work

especially for the young. It made its premiere at the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown 2014, winning a Standard Bank Ovation award.

Sue's Comment

This is ideal fare for younger audiences and a good counter-balance to the "sheer entertainment" options. Perfect for Grades 6 to 8.

Normal Force 15h00

Normal Force was one of the FEDA (Festival of Excellence in Dramatic Arts) winners in 2018, chosen out of 67 productions from over 50 High schools in and around Johannesburg. Held at the Joburg Fringe Theatre in May every year, FedA has become the platform for young theatre makers to tell their stories and celebrate their creative talents

This original script workshopped by students at St Stithians Boys' College is a hard hitting and powerful interrogation into masculinity and what it means to be a "man" in today's society. Challenging, provocative, entertaining and relevant, these students have created a piece of extraordinary theatre, an original work examining toxic masculinity and its terrifyingly infectious power over our minds and behaviour. Who is to blame?

"The text is brilliant, dark, funny, poetic and unbearably cruel at times; it is performed in a highly energized, physical style accompanied by outstanding a Capella voices and beatboxing performed entirely by the boys in the company."

- Sylvaine Strike

Normal Force will question the conversations you have, the music you listen to, the company you keep and the norms you unknowingly perpetuate.

Sue's Comment

It is an honour to be able to provide a platform for such excellence in schools' theatre. Suitable for all.

Silkworm 15h00

Silkworm is told through the eyes of the, at once, gregarious and socially awkward Georgina. Georgina is about to have the single most important day of her life. The show makes extensive use of storytelling and clowning techniques from Italy's Helikos School of Theatre Creation, adding a dollop of humour and a touch of the whimsy. This is a story of how the little things are often the big things.

Created by Jenine Collocott and Taryn Bennett, the creative team which gave us the stage adaptation of "The Snow Goose", it is a tale told with disarming charm and theatrical ingenuity. It is a brand new production. Here are some initial public reactions to its preview performances.

- "Pure creative genius that penetrate[s] to the heart of what it means to be human. It was beautiful."
- "A young woman fabulously named Georgina Aurora Clementine (Bennett), all kitted out in Italian clownish tradition, armed with acute social awkwardness tells you a story of magic and possibility. The work will take you to the movies and on a date with a stranger in a jacket and a spot of tiramisu."

It will take you to a picnic and onto the beach. And ultimately it will bring you back home to the marvellous miracle that silkworms are able to perform by vomiting kilometres of silk at a time.”

- “Clowning is pretty cool. It's also funny, moving, delightful, provocative and thoroughly entertaining. It is a delight, go delight in it.

Sue's Comment

The work of this dynamic team should always be seen: appealing to drama students and regular audience goers alike. Suitable for all.

Suddenly the Storm 09h30

Dangerous comedy! Combative, volatile and constantly on the verge of exploding, Dwayne and Shanell Combrink are two halves of a South African working class couple, living in an uneasy truce as they struggle with the day to day trials of scraping together a living and dreaming competitive dreams. But beneath Dwayne's angry violent exterior lies the heartbreak that governs his attitude to life. Dwayne's a man in mourning. Shanell believes that his current level of despair was sparked by the death of his childhood friend and work partner, Jonas. In fact, the source of his mourning and anger lies far further back and goes far deeper. When the elegant and self-contained Namhle Gumede, born 16 June 1976, arrives on their doorstep, seeking answers to questions that have remained buried for 40 years, Dwayne and Shanell finally discover the truth. What starts as a smouldering, dark comedy turns into a roller-coaster ride of startling revelations, rages and recriminations – suddenly the storm begins ...

Written by and starring the multiple award winning, prolific playwright, Paul Slabolepsky, Charmaine Weir-Smith and Renate Stuurman, it is directed by Bobby Heaney, and boasts a stunning Greg King set design.

Sue's Comment

Easily accessible for grades 10 to 12, great comedy that has a serious and moving twist.

The Ugly Noo Noo 12h15

By Andrew Buckland, performed by Mpilo 'Straw' Nzimande and directed by Peter Mitchell.

The Ugly Noo Noo rocked the SA theatre world in 1988 with its unusual name, played by an exceptional performer, featuring the infamous Parktown Prawn. It is now of great historical relevance as it examines the actions of political groups: for example, the AWB – Animals Without Beauty- and highlights, with great humour, the trials of a particular period in SA theatre and history.

Andrew Buckland is a legend in SA theatre: he developed his own unique brand of Physical Theatre; his talent as a satirical playwright. This play deftly and humorously shows how fear can be used to manipulate, dominate, exploit and destroy.

Now, 30 years later, a new production of the play highlights the sharp political satire with exquisite humour and showcases the high-energy technical skill of its performer, Mpilo 'Straw' Nzimande who has become a commanding presence in KZN Theatre with his extraordinary performances in *Woza Albert*, *Master Harold and the Boys*, *Feedback*, and most recently, *The BFG*.

Sue's Comment

Ideal for Grades 10 to 12. A lesson in the politics of the 80s would assist a young audience, but remember...this is not heavy stuff, being seen through the eyes of a Parktown Prawn. Opportunity for biology lesson too!

You Suck and Other Inescapable Truths 09h30

This play tells the tale of the spirited misadventures of a Grade 9 Afrikaans pupil/underdog, Prettina, and her crucial survival-advice as a minority in an Anglophile high school. It's about falling apart, fitting in and getting even. It's also hilariously funny with Klara van Wyk's portrayal of the gum-snapping, rambunctious teen earning her a Fleur-du-Cap and Fresh Fringe nomination as well as a Standard Bank Ovation award at the National Arts Festival in 2016. 'You Suck' has also recently completed a successful bullying awareness tour where it was performed to more than 30 schools in and around South Africa. **Klara van Wyk** is an actress, clown, writer and student, trained by Philippe Gaulier. She is currently pursuing her PhD at the University of Stellenbosch, specializing in clowning. **Francesco Nassimbeni** is an interdisciplinary performing arts practitioner. He recently completed a Masters in Theatre-Making at UCT, studying the overlap between graphic design and performance.

"The manner in which Van Wyk invests the audience in Prettina's experiences, both as a writer and a performer, is masterful and the results - organic comedy and genuine pathos - are quite something to experience." - David Fick, Broadway World

"Kids went bananas for it" -Daily Maverick

Sue's Comment

Age restriction: +12. Vital viewing for teenagers and heaps of fun. Relevant to all.

WORKSHOPS BETWEEN SHOWS

Between the first and second shows, at approximately 11h00, you can do the following, all at approx. 50 mins, allowing you to get to the next show:

(note that due to running time - 100 mins - of Suddenly the Storm, audiences in this show should choose an activity that does not have a precise starting time. Examples are the Harley display and the Perspective Art exhibitions.)

AFDA workshop on Performance

AFDA workshops have proved very popular since their inception at Jongosi day.

AFDA workshop on Film

Chasing 10 000 Living Treasures

Fascinating talk by Josh Crickmay - From a broken, suicidal, autistic teenager, who dropped out of school at 15, comes a remarkable tale of hope and inspiration. Author, vlogger, adventurer, wildlife enthusiast and inspirational speaker, twenty-one year old Josh Crickmay has come a long way since giving up hope as a teen. With the support of his family and friends, Josh was able to pursue his passion for adventure, photography and the wild and in 2017 launched a coffee table book "Josh's Big Year" documenting his

journey. Josh gives a heart-warming, highly entertaining talk about his personal journey in overcoming major psychological challenges, and how he intends using his talents to chase 10 000 living treasures around the globe. Suitable for young and old alike. Books available for purchase.

Fine art quiz hosted by Strauss & CO, Fine Art Consultants and Auctioneers, specifically aimed at Jongosi.

Isimangaliso – (street theatre by the pupils of Eden) is an environmental adventure of zany characters who are on a search for their friend, Pickersgill the Reed Frog. Puppetry, Songs, Dance and Lively storytelling make this rollicking piece entertaining for all ages. Come and meet Rusty the Barn Swallow, the annoyingly sedentary egg-laying turtles, Mr Palmnut Vulture, The Sleepy Hippo and get involved in the Bushveld action. Brilliant theatre for kids by kids!

Living Art Demonstation

Allow your art loving pupils to get a ‘behind the scenes’ glimpse at what the process of creativity is all about. Join artists in the Perspective Tent as they create work in front of your very eyes. Also, use the opportunity to take in all the art on display.

Novel-Script Project Inspirations: Readings of 6 new short scripts created by emerging theatre writers from KZN and Zimbabwe, based on a local novel.

Twist has run this project since 2009, and now partners Hilton for the first time. It brings together writers to participate in a week-long script-writing workshop. The readings of the best scripts by good actors forms this hour long educational session.

Playwrights who play! presented by Assitej is a workshop by Lereko Mfono about beginning the process of writing through fun physical activities! It unleashes creativity and sets the stage for all aspirant playwrights to build their masterpieces.

The Art of the Harley Davidson

Find the Harley stand and have a guided tour of these iconic bikes.

Between the SECOND and THIRD shows, at approximately 14h00, you can do the following

AFDA workshop on Performance - repeat

AFDA workshop on Filming – repeat

Chasing 10 000 Living Treasures - repeat

Fine art Quizz - repeat

Isimangaliso – repeat

Living Art Demonstation repeat, but with a different artist

Novel Script Writing Project – repeat

The Art of the Harley Davidson

You Suck! Workshop

Klara van Wyk will run a workshop in using the arts and clowning to deal with any “suckishness” the world might have in store. Create your own clown and liberate your inner funny!

2018 Jongosi Schools Programme

Friday 14th September 2018

	Start	End	Title	Venue	Seats
MAIN PROGRAMME	09h30	11h10	Suddenly the Storm (100 mins)	Theatre	470
	09h30	11h00	Die Reuk van Appels (90 mins)	Memorial Hall	280
	09h30	10h30	Big Boys I (60 mins)	Falcon Tent	500
	09h30	10h30	You Suck and other Inescapable Truths (60 mins)	Drama Centre	140
	09h30	10h30	Hocus Pocus (60 mins)	Campbell	150
	09h30	10h30	Narrative Dreams (60 mins)	Old Museum	80
	FREE WORKSHOPS	11h15	12h00	AFDA workshop on Performance	Lecture Theatre A
First-come-	11h15	12h00	AFDA workshop on Film	Lecture Theatre B	
first-served	11h15	12h00	Chasing 10 000 Living Treasures	Classroom 1	
	11h15	12h00	Fine art quizz	CFI Lecture Theatre	
	11h15	12h00	Isimangaliso	Street Theatre	
	11h15	12h00	Living Art Demonstation	Perspective Art	
	11h15	12h00	Novel-Script Project Inspirations: Readings	Classroom 2	
	11h15	12h00	Playwrights who play!	Band Room	
	11h15	12h00	The Art of the Harley Davidson	Harley Davidson Stand	
MAIN PROGRAMME	12h15	13h45	Green Man Flashing (90 mins)	Theatre	470
	12h15	13h15	James Cairns vs Humanity (60 mins)	Memorial Hall	280
	12h15	13h15	Comedy's Cool (60 mins)	Falcon Tent	500
	12h15	13h15	The Ugly Noo Noo (60 mins)	Drama Centre	140
	12h15	13h15	Hocus Pocus (60 mins)	Campbell	150
FREE WORKSHOPS	14h00	14h45	AFDA workshop on Performance - repeat	Lecture Theatre A	
First-come-	14h00	14h45	AFDA workshop on Filming – repeat	Lecture Theatre B	
first-served	14h00	14h45	Chasing 10 000 Living Treasures -repeat	Classroom 1	
	14h00	14h45	Fine art Quizz -repeat	CFI Lecture Theatre	
	14h00	14h45	Isimangaliso - repeat	Street Theatre	
	14h00	14h45	Living Art Demonstation repeat, but with a different artist	Perspective Art	
	14h00	14h45	Novel Script Writing Project – repeat	Classroom 2	
	14h00	14h45	The Art of the Harley Davidson	Harley Davidson Stand	
	14h00	14h45	You Suck! Workshop	Band Room	
MAIN PROGRAMME	15h00	16h30	Green Man Flashing (90 mins)	Theatre	470
	15h00	16h00	Silkworm (60 mins)	Memorial Hall	280
	15h00	16h00	Big Boys I (60 mins)	Falcon Tent	500
	15h00	16h00	Normal Force (60 mins)	Drama Centre	140
	15h00	16h00	EWOK Live!	Campbell	150

.....and then there is the craft market, art exhibitions and food. So you can also just chill between shows!!!

Enjoy and thank you for coming.

The 26th Annual Hilton Arts Festival Team

Evan, Duncan, Jules, Sue 'n' Su!!!!!!!!!!!!!!