



2018 NALEDI AWARDS WELCOMES THEATRES LOVERS TO TEATRO, MONTECASINO

Monday 18 June 2018 | Hailed as the South African 'Oscars', on Monday 18 June 2018, theatre practitioners from across the country were recognized for their artistic excellence and contribution to the South African theatre landscape for productions staged during the past year.

"Tonight is a celebration not only of talent and excellence on the stages of South Africa, but of the cohesion of incredible commitment to Theatre and Theatrical Arts," shared CEO and Founder of the Naledi Awards, Dawn Lindberg. "There is a fervent determination on the part of every person here tonight, to give of their technical resources, their performances on stage: the singers, dancers and actors, the directors, designers, writers and technicians. In fact, over 200 humans, who have put so much of their time and expertise into this sparkling, multifaceted tapestry. They have made it possible for us to exhibit the finest South African talent and arts in action."

Lindberg went on to explain how for the past 14 years, she and her team have been celebrating the soul of South Africa's people and their stories. "Without the telling of our stories, and without experiencing our joy, pain and rage, the trips and journeys along the long and dusty roads of our land to bring those stories to the people, the soul of our nation will surely wither and fall quiet. Tonight, we honour the true wealth of our nation. The wealth of dedication to our industry and the nation's rainbow of cultures, genders, languages, customs, and beliefs and storytelling."

She took great delight in introducing newly-appointed Board Chairperson, Kgomotso Christopher, who spoke of the great influence the theatre has had on her life. "It's a privilege to have been invited to play a leading role in the transformation of South African theatre and the arts," she began. "A sector which changed my life as a child artist at school and shaped my future. It's an honour to have the opportunity to pay forward and extend my services to the Naledi Awards as a Chairperson."



THE FULL LIST OF THE WINNERS | PRODUCTIONS STAGED IN 2017:

Best Supporting Actress

Khutjo Green – Molière's Tartuffe

Best Supporting Actor

John Lata – The Suitcase

Best Production for Children (Supported by ASSITEJ SA) (0 – 12)

Cloud Catcher – Prod. by Odd Body Theatre, dir. by Richard Antrobus

Best Production for Young Audiences: (Supported by ASSITEJ SA) (13 – 17)

Onderwêreld – Prod. by Andre Stolz Productions, dir. by Andre Stolz

Best Performance in a Production for Young Audiences

Jaques De Silva – Taking Flight

Best Newcomer/Breakthrough

Phillip Schnetler as "Adam/Felicia" – Priscilla, Queen of the Desert

Best Costume Design

Sasha Ehlers – Molière's Tartuffe

Best Lighting Design

Joshua Cutts – West Side Story

Best Set Design

Conor Murphy – West Side Story

Best Sound Design or Soundscape

Gladman Balintulo – Sarafina!

Best Original Score / Arrangement / Musical Adaptation

Charl-Johan Lingenfelder – King Kong: Legend of a Boxer

Best Musical Director

Charl-Johan Lingenfelder – West Side Story

Best Ensemble

Molière's Tartuffe – Produced by The Fortune Cookie Theatre Company in collab. with the French Institute of South Africa, written by Molière, adapted by Richard Wilbur, directed by Sylvaine Strike

Best Original Choreography for a Play, Musical / Revue

Louisa Talbot – West Side Story



THE FULL LIST OF THE WINNERS | PRODUCTIONS STAGED IN 2017:

Best Director of a Musical / Revue

Jonathan Munby – King Kong

Best Director of a Play

Lesedi Job – When Swallows Cry

Best Supporting / Featured Performance in a Musical / Revue | Female

Ntambo Rapatla as "Miriam" – King Kong: Legend of a Boxer

Best Supporting / Featured Performance in a Musical / Revue | Male

Sanda Shandu as "Lucky" – King Kong: Legend of a Boxer

Best Lead Performance in a Musical | Female

Lynelle Kenned as "Maria" – West Side Story

Best Lead Performance in a Musical | Male

David Dennis as "Bernadette" – Priscilla, Queen of the Desert

Best Lead Performance in a Play | Female

Jennifer Steyn – The Inconvenience of Wings

Best Lead Performance in a Play | Male

Andrew Buckland – The Inconvenience of Wings

Best Performance in a Solo Production

Gideon Lombard – Die reuk van appels

Best New South African Script

When Swallows Cry – Prod. by The Market Theatre, written by Mike van Graan, dir. by Lesedi Job

Best Production of a Play

When Swallows Cry – Prod. by The Market Theatre, written by Mike van Graan, directed by Lesedi Job

Best Production of a Musical

King Kong: Legend of a Boxer – Prod. by Eric Abraham & The Fugard Theatre, written by Harry Bloom, dir. by Jonathan Munby



SPECIAL AWARDS

World Impact Award

William Kentridge

Lesedi Spirit of Courage Award

Oscar von Memerty

Innovation in Theatre Award

Dorothy Ann Gould

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Sandra Prinsloo & Don Mattera

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Naledi Theatre Awards have been in existence for 14 years and are recognised as the premier Awards event on the Gauteng Theatre Calendar. Its mission is to recognise and reward excellence in the Performing Arts, to raise the profile of Live Theatre and to create awareness of the abundant talent alive and well on our SA stages.

The Naledi Theatre Awards have honoured over 90 Lifetime Achievers: veteran artistes, technicians, and administrators who have dedicated their lives to SA Theatre, and also pays tribute to people in the arts who have taken their final bows during the year under review.

The Naledi Theatre Awards covers all mainstream professional productions from the period 1 January - 1 December of the previous year and the Naledi judges typically evaluate over 100 productions in approximately 27 categories. The Naledi panel of judges consists of informed and regular theatre-goers, academics and members of the media covering the arts in Johannesburg.