



THE 15TH ANNUAL NALEDI THEATRE AWARDS WINNERS

Tuesday 21 May 2019 | By: Chris Avant Smith

2018 was a very special year in theatre for South Africa, with a host of world class productions being nominated for the awards. Outstanding talent and excellence in theatre are the watchwords for the Naledis. As the theatre landscape diversifies and matures to reflect today's South African society and the mainstreaming of truly indigenous works from musicals to plays, children's theatre and independent productions, the roles of the Naledi judges have become increasingly more difficult and challenging each year. Whilst budgets tighten and audiences are getting harder to attract, it is the role of theatre makers in this country to provide their audiences with productions that fulfil their creative spirits and thrill their audiences. It is against this backdrop, that the Naledi Judges saw nearly 100 productions during 2018.

The judging of these productions saw very few surprises this year with the majority of nominations needing little or no debate. As usual the actual votes for productions are done in secret and the results are audited.

Sweeping the boards with 7 Naledi Awards is the musical "The Color Purple". "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time", follows with 3 awards. The brand new South African play "Shoes and Coups" gets the nod with 2 awards, as does the children's theatre piece "Goggas".

Founder and CEO of the Naledi Theatre Awards, Dawn Lindberg, on behalf of the Judges and Board of the Naledis, congratulates all the winners, nominees and theatre practitioners for an exceptional year of entertainment and dedication to the craft.



"However, we are constantly devastated by the lack of financial support given to theatre in general and the Naledis in particular by the Department of Arts and Culture, National Arts Council and television Channels such as KykNet, Mzansi Magic and the SABC." She said. "Almost everyone involved in producing, creating and staging the Naledis this year worked for no remuneration. We are profoundly grateful to the Joburg Theatre, Splitbeam Technical and Visual Frontiers as well as the presenters and entertainers who all felt honoured to be part of the celebration of excellence within their own ranks.

The Winners of the 15th Annual Naledi Theatre awards are:

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Heidi Mollentze as "Rona"
The Revlon Girl

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Sipho Zakwe
Shoes & Coups

BEST PRODUCTION FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG AUDIENCES (SUPPORTED BY ASSITEJ SA) (0 – 13)

GOGGAS!

Prod. by National Children's Theatre, Written by Gillian Katz adapted by Francois Theron, Dir. by Jade Bowers

BEST PRODUCTION FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG AUDIENCES (supported by ASSITEJ SA) (14 - 17)

POLKADOTS

Prod. by Redhill School in partnership with &CO, Dir. by Shelley Adriaanzen



BEST PERFORMANCE IN A PRODUCTION FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES (Supported by ASSITEJ SA)

Jaques De Silva as "as Antic the Ant"
Goggas!

BEST BREAKTHROUGH PERFORMANCE

Ryan de Villiers as "Miss Trunchbull"
Roald Dahl's Matilda

BEST COSTUME DESIGN

Fred Abrahamse & Marcel Meyer
MACBETH

BEST LIGHTING DESIGN

Gareth Hewitt Williams
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

BEST AV/ANIMATION DESIGN

Gareth Hewitt Williams
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

BEST SET DESIGN

Stan Knight
Fool for Love

BEST SOUND DESIGN

Ntuthuko Mbuyazi
Florence



BEST SCORE / ARRANGEMENT / ADAPTATION

Kabelo "Bonafide" Togoe & Aubrey Sekhabi
FREEDOM

BEST MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Rowan Bakker
THE COLOR PURPLE

BEST ENSEMBLE

HANI: The legacy
Prod. by The Market Theatre Laboratory, Created by Graduates of The Market Theatre
Laboratory, Dir. by Leila Henriques

BEST ORIGINAL CHOREOGRAPHY

Oscar Buthelezi
THE COLOR PURPLE

BEST DIRECTOR OF A MUSICAL / REVUE

Janice Honeyman
THE COLOR PURPLE

BEST DIRECTOR OF A PLAY

Charmaine Weir-Smith
The Train Driver



BEST SUPPORTING/FEATURED PERFORMANCE IN A MUSICAL/REVUE: FEMALE

Lelo Ramasimong as " Shug Avery"

THE COLOR PURPLE

BEST SUPPORTING/FEATURED PERFORMANCE IN A MUSICAL/REVUE: MALE

Yamikani Mahaka-Phiri as "Harpo"

THE COLOR PURPLE

BEST LEAD PERFORMANCE IN A MUSICAL (FEMALE)

Didintle Khunou as "Celie"

THE COLOR PURPLE

BEST LEAD PERFORMANCE IN A MUSICAL (MALE)

Paul du Toit as "Hedwig"

Hedwig and the Angry Inch

BEST LEAD PERFORMANCE IN A PLAY (FEMALE)

Zikhona Sodlaka as "Queenie"

NONGOGO

BEST LEAD PERFORMANCE IN A PLAY (MALE)

Kai Luke Brummer as "Christopher Boone"

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

BEST PERFORMANCE IN A SOLO PRODUCTION: FEMALE/MALE

Daniel Mpilo Richards

Land Acts



BEST NEW SA SCRIPT

Shoes & Coups

Prod. by The Market Theatre Written & Dir. by Palesa Mazamisa,

BEST PRODUCTION OF A PLAY

Tshepang: The Third Testament

Prod. by Joburg Theatre, Written & Dir. by Lara Foot

BEST PRODUCTION OF A MUSICAL

THE COLOR PURPLE

Prod. by Joburg Theatre & Bernard Jay, Dir. by Janice Honeyman

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For further information please visit our website www.naleditheatreawards.com

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