



## Binnie Christie

— SHE SAID SHE SAID

Binnie is an enthusiastic young theatre-maker creating fresh, local work. She has skills acting, comedy, improvisation, singing, directing, writing and marketing. She has done several performances and crew work at Wits and with other theatre companies as well as written and directed two plays. Binnie is Wits graduate in dramatic arts from Wits.

'She Said, She Said' is a modern-day absurd play with tons of dark comedy, witty banter and word play. It dismantles theatrical boundaries through its' punchy text, unique style, innovative staging and challenging performances. The play explores the idea of being in two minds and butting heads with yourself, and will appeal to any woman who's ever had to stop herself from snooping through her boyfriend's things.



## Nomvuyo Hlophe

— PARADISE FALLS

Nomvuyo's current level of study is MTech Degree in Drama at Tshwane University of Technology. However she has worked with various theatre houses as both an actress and director in the past 6 yrs. Paradise Falls is set in an isolated place, were very little if not a few people live there. A man who has a rather strange and yet so interesting personality is a father to a young girl, Samantha. Samantha is a naive young girl who has a very curious nature, and loves catching butterflies. "I'm a new young mum, and it has been an incredible 12 months, filled with the joys and challenges of being a mother, student and still trying to peruse or establish myself as an emerging director. To say the least it's an interesting road that I know was designed for me and I shall travel on it, with my full armour on"



## Palesa Matabane

— SENOHE

Palesa has among her accomplished skills Script writing, Radio training in news reading, interviewing and voice over ads, Voice and speech training, Acting, Movement and teaching training. She has masters in Drama and Film Studies in progress University of Pretoria. A king consults a young girl said to have great power..." 'Come let us go to the Seer' because the prophet of today used to be called a seer." 1 Samuel chapter 9 verse 9 In 1795 a girl was born a girl who would come to be known as Mantsopa the prophetess. Hailed as a Christian, before the dawn of Christianity to the Basotho, she saw visions of the future. Here we see her, her past, future and present; or do we only see her visions playing in the echoes of time?



## Donna Jane Steel

— FEMME FATALE

Completed her MA with cum laude in Drama and Performance Studies from UKZN Howard College Campus. On the morning of her murder trial, 18-year-old Ayesha refuses to plead guilty for killing her husband. Alongside fellow murderers Marici and Idlozi, these three female spirits revisit the shocking, amusing and frightening moments in their lives that led to their unorthodox crimes. Through a sinful blend of comedy and horror, we invite you to encounter the modern day femme fatale: women driven to harm those they love. "When I saw the slogan on the callout for applications, I knew it was exactly the right platform. The Olive Tree Theatre is a home away from home for passionate, creative spirits."



## Privillage Mutendera

— WHAT MAKES A WOMAN

Actress, Director and writer, has been nominated three times for an outstanding best actress of the National Arts Merit Awards (NAMA) in Zimbabwe. She has also directed and written plays performed at SADC women in theatre and dance festival 2010. We do not have a lot of female directors in theatre in my country I believe this is a good opportunity for me especially in this era we live in as we are equals with our counter parts thus dependence syndrome is done away with as well as equal opportunity - as they say empower a woman, empower a nation.



## Tamara Guhrs

— 3 WITCHES

Tamara is a Drama, arts and culture educator/ facilitator with specialised interest in pan-African culture and environmental justice. She has written, co-written, directed as well as co-directed many plays after attaining her education at Rhodes university and various other institutions.

In this contemporary feminist re-imagining of Macbeth's prophetic witches, the "weirdSisters" possess prophetic powers only because they have seen it all. Things have gone too far. They have to find the "one who would be king" and give him the impossible news. In this darkly satirical piece of theatre, revolution brews. But whose rise to power are these strange sisters predicting, and what creature will be born when delivery comes?



## Megan Godsell

— TALKING TO WATER

Currently studying for her MA Performance as Research- Participatory Theatre as a Receiver for Dangerous Memory at the University of the Witwatersrand- School of Dramatic Art.

"Escape the loneliness of your memories. Slip into the world of the Dirty Girls. These three Water Spirits are locked in the heart of a Dry Spell. They want only to forget, but they need you to help them remember. What is water? What does it do? What do you remember about it? The Dirty Girls have been hurt. They stopped looking back. Their home is in the Land of Rain but they cannot return there until they remember how to talk to Water. They hurt, so they forget. They dance and sing instead. They tell jokes instead, but they are drying out. If they don't remember soon, if they cannot open the Rain Door they will turn to dust and blow away like so many others before them. Meet Aps, Ona and Lena. Only you can save them. Leave your doubts and bring your umbrellas."



## Nelago Gloria Shilongoh

— KUKU

Nelago Shilongoh is a theatre maker and performer with an Afrocentric approach to her work, reflecting interests and research in culture and identity. She is currently pursuing her BA Honours in Drama Studies & Visual Culture at the University of Namibia.

KUKU is an expression of the memories and lessons learnt, an inquiry into life, along with the love and guidance of a Grandmother. "I was really attracted to the idea of directing and theatre making after staging my first written play Broken Butterflies in 2012, at the National Theatre of Namibia. For me it is not just about the end product of productions, but as well the making and rehearsal process that I appreciate finding myself in with other creatives and storytellers."



## Momo Matsunyane

— PENNY

Matriculated Sacred Heart College in 2005 and in 2007 she attended Wits University and completed an Honours Degree in Dramatic Arts, Film and Television in 2011.

"I look up to a few people like my father Neo M. and my aunt Kgomotso. They have taught me so much about this industry, about being professional and having a great work ethic as well as always doing everything to the best of my abilities. I am inspired by past Afrikan leaders who were executed because of what they stood for, they have taught me that silence and passivity doesn't serve anyone and that it's my responsibility to have a voice and to exercise it" Penny explores some of the challenges faced by actors in trying to navigate the fickle business of show and some of the repercussions of mixing business with pleasure.



## Philisiwe Twijnstra

— MATTIE AND SIS

Philisiwe is an actress, musician and playwright. She resides in Durban and a former student at DUT. She was selected as one of the delegates in Women Playwrights International Conference. Currently she is writing her new South African script 'The Red Suitcase' 'Salty Pillows' and a Novel. She just came back from Mozambique with her second award winning play 'Matty and Sis.'

Matty & Sis is a tale of two sisters, like any other relationship they have issues and fights. They play games to keep the time in a distance and laugh together to soothe any sadness and guilt. As the play unfolds it is revealed that one of the sisters is dead, she keeps coming back every night to Matty's bedroom and forces Matty to face reality.



## Thandazile 'Sonia' Radebe

— BROKEN CHANTS

"Sonia" Radebe believes in using the body to tell stories and, through them, to create dialogue and greater interconnectedness in society. Radebe, who hails from White City, was introduced to dance by the Arco Dance Theatre in Soweto. She began her career as a professional dancer in 2001 with Moving into Dance Mophatong in Newtown. Radebe is passionate about training people with physical disabilities to explore and uncover the magic. Her career has been punctuated by a number of accolades, most notably being acknowledged in 2007 by the Gauteng MEC for Arts and Culture as the Dance Umbrella's Most Outstanding Female Dancer in Contemporary Style and in 2011 being awarded the Gauteng Dance Manyano Best Female Dancer of the Decade Award and won the 2015 Naledi Theatre Award for best Choreographer.



## Neelo Lentebanye

— BIRTHRIGHT

Writer, director and Actor hailing from Botswana. She has written plays and this platform is exactly what she needs to get a headstarts towards her upcoming directing career. She is inspired by women in Theatre and aspires to be a celebrated. I found out about the women's theatre Festival when I visited South Africa to see a show recently and I was overwhelmed and excited about the role of women in arts as this space showed me that we are making it.



## Thandi Ramashe

— UN-DISCOVER ME

Thandi has special talents in dancing (Hip-hop, Pantsula, Contemporary and traditional), Scriptwriting, Singing. After her training at the Market Theatre Laboratory she has worked in various productions as writer, actor and puppeteer. When I was writing Un/Discover Me I knew that I was writing for "girl power" as we call it, to remind the female's young and old that we are strong, beautiful, bold and very intelligent in our own special ways. So the festival was a great platform for my production because it also encourages women to be leaders not only in the arts industry but also in the world. Be our own Boss and Create for Ourselves!!!



OLIVE TREE THEATRE'S

# 5<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S

Theatre Festival 2016

Celebrating 60 Years Of Phenomenal Women

04-13 NOV 2016 | SHOWS START @ 12:00 TILL LATE

05-06 NOV 2016 | WRITING AND DIRECTING WORKSHOPS  
10:00 TO 13:00

08-11 NOV 2016 | FILM SCREENING  
12:00 TO 14:00

DAILY MARKET - FROM 11:00



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## 04-13 NOV 2016 PROGRAM

Friday - 04 Nov '16

OPEN NIGHT  
18:30-18:35 **WELCOME SPEECH**  
BY NTHABISENG SEANE  
18:35-18:45 **DAC REP**  
18:45-18:50: **OTT CREATIVE DIRECTOR**  
BY NTHSHIENG MOKGORO  
18:50- 18:55: **MP PRODUCTIONS**  
BY MPHO MOLOTO  
18:55-19:00 **ALEX FM TAKALANE**  
NEMANGOWE  
19:00 – 19:15 **KEMET**  
BY ASANDA RUDAH  
19:30 **NKGO YA SECHABA AWARD**  
PRESENTED BY HLENGIWE LUSHABA  
**TAUTSHADI** –BAND (JHB)  
REFRESHMENTS

Tuesday - 08 Nov '16

12:00 **FILM SCREENING**  
15:00 **UN-DISCOVER ME**  
BY THANDI RAMASHE (JHB)  
17:00 **PARADISE FALLS**  
BY NOMVUYO HLOPHE (TUT)  
19:00 **PENNY**  
BY MOMO MATSUNYANE

Thursday - 10 Nov '16

12:00 **FILM SCREENING**  
15:00 **WHAT MAKES A WOMAN** BY  
BY PRIVILLAGE MUTENDERA (ZIM)  
17:00 **UN-DISCOVER ME**  
BY THANDI RAMASHE (JHB)  
19:00 **SHE SAID SHE SAID**  
BY BINNIE CHRISTIE (WITS)

Saturday - 12 Nov '16

12:00 **PARADISE FALLS**  
BY NOMVUYO HLOPHE (TUT)  
15:00 **SHE SAID SHE SAID**  
BY BINNIE CHRISTIE (WITS)  
17:00 **3 WITCHES**  
BY TAMARA GUHRS (JHB)  
19:00 **MATTIE & SIS**  
BY PHILISIWE TWIJNSTR (DBN)

Saturday - 05 Nov '16

10:00-13:00 **WRITING WORKSHOP**  
BY REFILOE LEPEPE  
15:00 **3 WITCHES**  
BY TAMARA GUHRS (JHB)  
17:00 **KUKU**  
BY NELAGO SHILONGOH (NAM)  
19:00 **FEMME FATALE**  
BY DONNA JANE STEEL (UKZN)

Wednesday - 09 Nov '16

12:00 **FILM SCREENING**  
15:00 **BIRTHRIGHT**  
BY NEELO LENTEBANYE (BOT)  
17:00 **WHAT MAKES A WOMAN**  
BY PRIVILLAGE MUTENDERA (ZIM)

Friday - 11 Nov '16

12:00 **FILM SCREENING**  
15:00 **TALKING TO WATER**  
BY MEGAN GODSELL (JHB)  
19:00 **SENOHE**  
BY PALESA MATABANE (UP)

Sunday - 13 Nov '16

12:00 **WRITING WORKSHOP**  
FOLLOW-UP  
15:00 **MATTIE & SIS**  
BY PHILISIWE TWIJNSTR (DBN)  
17:00 **BROKEN CHANTS**  
BY THANDAZILE "SONIA" RADEBE  
19:00 **ABAFAZI – MUSICAL**  
(JHB)

Sunday - 06 Nov '16

10:00- 13:00 **DIRECTING WORKSOP**  
BY ZINZI MHLONGO  
15:00 **FEMME FATALE**  
BY DONNA JANE STEEL (UKZN)  
17:00 **SENOHE**  
BY PALESA MATABANE (UP)  
19:00 **KUKU**  
BY NELAGO SHILONGOH

Monday - 07 Nov '16

09:00-15:00 **WOMAN IN THEATRE PANEL**  
**DISCUSSION**  
17:00 **PENNY**  
BY MOMO MATSUNYANE  
19:00 **TALKING TO WATER**  
BY MEGAN GODSELL (JHB)

## About Us

OLIVE TREE THEATRE PRODUCTIONS is a registered NPO since 2011. It aims to recognise culture as an important factor in the status of women and youth and aims to see women and youth empowered to grow their skills in the creative industry as they advance in leadership roles. We are committed to empower arts practitioners with skills to advance their works and to ensure sustainability. #OTT

OTT realised theres a need for Women's Theatre Festival. We have realized that a time has come for women to take centre stage in writing and directing not only their own stories but to take a stand in the industry and also to take part in the administration of theatres around the country. Though this program, a generation of women theatre practitioners are finding ways to emancipate themselves and are still yet to win the battle of educational and skill resources. #WTF

Ntshieng Mokgoro is the Creative director Olive Tree Theatre Productions that is located in Alexandra Township that focuses on developing and uplifting women and youth. Having worked in community theatre she tasted mainstream, in 1997 when she represented Africa in a project called "CHILDREN OF THE WORLD" in Russia. In 1999 She Directed "UMDLWEMBE" which won the 'Standard Bank Best Youth Production' Her highlights is when she became a recipient of the Standardbank Young Artist Award 2008/2009  
#womenintheatre #womenAredoiingIt

## Olive Tree Theatre Team

NTSHIENG MOKGORO - CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
MIKE SITHE - PRODUCTION MANAGER

JESSICA NDABA - PRODUCER  
NTANDO MAKHUBELA - STAGE MANAGER  
KARABO MOKGORO - PRODUCTION INTERN

NTHABISENG SEANE - PROJECT MANAGER  
THEMBISA MASHAMBA - STAGE MANAGER

#OTTSUPERHEROES

f FACEBOOK - OLIVETREETHEATRE OR WOMENSTHEATREFESTIVAL i INSTA - OLIVETREETHEATRE