





ARTS AND CULTURE

Pocket Guide to South Africa 2011/12

ARTS AND CULTURE

South Africa's arts and culture are as varied as one might expect from such a diverse nation. The blend of local cultures and diverse influences make for a melting pot of creativity that never disappoints.

As custodians of South Africa's diverse cultural, artistic and linguistic heritage, the Department of Arts and Culture aims to develop and preserve South African culture to ensure social cohesion and nation-building.

Arts and culture summit

A national consultative summit on the contribution of the arts, culture and heritage sector to the economy was held in April 2011 and took a number of far-reaching resolutions. The summit resolved to continue with the implementation of the National Liberation Heritage Route Project, which will tell the stories of the country's liberation struggle. Another resolution was that the departments of arts and culture and basic education should develop interventions in the education system to bring back arts education into schools. Through this initiative, government will deploy 3 000 full-time art facilitators in schools throughout the country.

Legacy projects

Monuments, museums, plaques, outdoor art, heritage trails and other symbolic representations create visible reminders of, and commemorate, the many aspects of South Africa's past.

Government has initiated several national legacy projects to establish commemorative symbols of South Africa's history and celebrate its heritage.

National coat of arms

South Africa's coat of arms was adopted in 2000.

Symbolism

Rising sun: a life-giving force

Protea: beauty and the flowering of the nation

Ears of wheat: fertility of the land

Elephant tusks: wisdom, steadfastness and strength

Knobkierie and spear: defence of peace

Drum: love of culture

The motto, !Ke e:/xarra//ke, written in the Khoisan language of the

!Xam people, means "diverse people unite".



Legacy projects include the:

- Women's Monument
- · Chief Albert Luthuli's house in KwaDukuza, KwaZulu-Natal
- · Battle of Blood River/Ncome Project
- Samora Machel Project
- Nelson Mandela Museum
- · Constitution Hill Project
- · Sarah Baartman Centre of Rememberance
- · Khoisan Legacy Project
- · Freedom Park Project
- Dulcie September Legacy Project
- · Matola Raid Memorial Project
- · Bhambatha Project
- · Albert Luthuli Annual Memorial Lecture.

Work is underway in Oliver Tambo's homestead in Nkantolo, in Bizana, where government is building a museum, an interpretation centre and a statue.

An initial amount of R25 million has been set aside for this project.

Work is underway to upgrade and declare as heritage sites the graves of Dr Beyers Naude and Robert Sobukwe in Graaff Reinet.

In KwaZulu-Natal, the Department of Arts and Culture launched the Dr John Dube Heritage Legacy Project. This project will cost R60 million and is expected to create 270 jobs.

In Gauteng, the graves of Rahima Moosa, Helen Joseph, Lillian Ngoyi and Charlotte Maxeke have been declared as national heritage sites.

Government has also declared the Voortrekker Monument in Pretoria as a heritage site and has connected it with the Freedom Park by building a road linking the two institutions, as part of nation-building, reconciliation and nation-healing.

In the Western Cape, the department is working with the Ray Alexander Simonds Memory Centre to build a museum and a community centre in Gugulethu that will celebrate and

In 2011, the restoration of Liliesleaf farm, where many of the Rivonia trial members were seized during 1963, was completed.



The farm was used as a meeting place and a hide-out for senior African National Congress and South African Communist Party leaders in the 1960s.

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Through the Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy, the Department of Arts and Culture has identified key policy interventions that will support the growth and development of the creative economy.



The Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy seeks to enhance the art and culture sector's contribution to the national effort to create five million iobs within the next 10 years.

Specifically, through the the Public Art Programme, the department aims to create 10 000 new work opportunities over the next three years.

honour the contribution of workers in the national liberation struggle.

In honouring the heroines of the struggle, government has declared the site of the 1957 anti-pass women's march in Zeerust as a heritage site.

Arts and culture organisations

The following organisations play an active role in preserving and promoting South Africa's arts and culture:

- · National Heritage Council
- · South African Heritage Resources Agency
- South African Geographical Names Council
- · National Arts Council of South Africa (NAC)
- arts institutions such as the State Theatre in Pretoria, Playhouse Company in Durban, Artscape in Cape Town, Market Theatre in Johannesburg, Performing Arts Centre

In September 2011, the Minister of Arts and Culture, Mr Paul Mashatile, announced a National Liberation Heritage Route, to honour the women and men who fought against apartheid.



Some R20 million has been set aside for the construction of a museum at OR Tambo's home in the Eastern Cape, while R50 million has been set aside for Ngquza Hill, where the Pondoland revolt and massacre of 1960 took place. In Mvezo, the birthplace of Nelson Mandela, the department is building a museum and a proposal for funding of R70 million has been developed. Roads and other infrastructure in the areas around museums and monuments will also be upgraded. By mid-2012, work on the Steve Biko Centre in King Williams Town in the Eastern Cape was also underway.

The department is also looking at setting up museums and sites across the border in countries such as Mozambique, Angola, Tanzania and Zambia.

Celebrated South African playwright Athol Fugard received special honours at the 2011 Tony Awards.

Fugard received a Special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre. Over the years, he has received six Tony nominations, including four for Best Play, for Sizwe Banzi is Dead and The Island (1975), A Lesson from Aloes (1982), Master Harold ... and The Boys (1982) and Blood Knot (1986).

of the Free State in Bloemfontein and the Windybrow Theatre in Johannesburg

- · Business and Arts South Africa
- Arts and Culture Trust.

Cultural industries

South Africa's cultural and creative industry is a good revenue generator, and still has great potential to produce more and contribute to job creation.

The Cultural Industries Growth Strategy capitalises on the economic potential of the craft, music, film, publishing and design industries. The Department of Arts and Culture provides support in the form of financing, management capacity, advocacy and networking, and by developing public-private partnerships and other initiatives that use culture as a tool for urban regeneration.

Worldwide, the turnover of cultural industries makes this the fifth-largest economic sector, which comprises design, the performing arts, film, television, multimedia, cultural heritage, cultural tourism, visual arts, crafts and publishing.

The Department of Arts and Culture has entered into partnership with significant stakeholders to map the cultural industries.

Cabinet has identified the creative and cultural industries as one of the drivers of economic growth and job creation in the implementation of the New Growth Path.

The Industrial Policy Action Plan 2 identifies the cultural industries, in particular the craft sector, music, jewellery production, clothing, leather, footwear and textile as some of the sectors that will be subjected to focused and significant support by the State.

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Cultural tourism

Cultural festivals, African-cuisine projects, cultural villages, heritage routes and story-telling are areas that can benefit from South Africa's booming tourism industry.

Arts festivals

A range of arts festivals is held in South Africa every year. These have become popular events, with many of them seeing growing attendance numbers. The Department of Arts and Culture provides financial support to various arts and culture festivals.

The National Arts Festival, held annually in July in Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape, is one of the largest and most diverse arts gatherings in Africa.

Aardklop, held annually in Potchefstroom, North West, is inherently Afrikaans, but universal in character. The festival provides a platform for the creativity and talent of local artists.

Other festivals that attract visitors at both national and international level are the Joy of Jazz International Festival; Cape Town Jazz Festival; Oppikoppi; Calabash; the One City Festival in Taung, North West; the Awesome Africa Music Festival in Durban; the Spier Summer Festival at Spier Estate in the Western Cape; the Windybrow Theatre Festival in Johannesburg; and Innibos, Mbombela.

Theatre

South African theatre is internationally acclaimed as being unique and of top quality.

The theatre scene in South Africa is vibrant, with many active spaces across the country offering everything from indigenous drama, music, dance, cabaret and satire, to West End and Broadway hits, classical music, opera and ballet.

In recent years, South African theatre has taken the entertainment world by storm with commendable reviews for *Umoja, The Lion King* and *Kat and The Kings*. The reception these productions receive in capitals of the world testifies to the high quality of indigenous South African theatre.

In May 2011, the Handspring Puppeteers, Adrian Kohler and Basil Jones, received the prestigious Tony Award for their successful play, *The War Horse*. The play took Broadway by storm and received rave reviews. It also had a successful run in the West End.

Music

While local music styles such as South African jazz have influenced African and world music for decades, gospel and kwaito are the most popular and most recorded styles today.

Kwaito combines elements of rap, reggae, hip-hop and other styles into a distinctly South African sound.

Kwaai Jazz is gaining popularity.

Orchestras

The NAC is responsible for funding the KwaZulu-Natal, Cape and Gauteng orchestras as well as the Cape Town Jazz Orchestra

Dance

South African dance is unique in its vitality and energy. More and more South African dance companies, individual dancers and choreographers are being invited to perform at festivals throughout Europe, Australia and the United States of America (USA).

Contemporary work ranges from normal preconceptions of movement and performance art or performance theatre, to the completely unconventional. Added to this is the African experience, which includes traditional dance inspired by wedding ceremonies, battles, rituals and everyday life.

The Dance Factory in Johannesburg provides a permanent platform for all kinds of dance and movement groups, while the University of the Witswatersrand (Wits) Theatre is home to the annual Dance Umbrella, a showcase for new work.

The Cape Town City Ballet is the oldest ballet company in the country.

The largest ballet company is the South African Ballet Theatre (SABT), based in Johannesburg.

The SABT celebrated 10 years of existence in February 2011. Marking this celebration, the SABT had two full-length

South African Jodi Bieber's iconic and shocking *Time* magazine cover portrait of an 18-year-old Afghani girl, Bibi Aisha, whose face was mutilated by her Taliban husband, was selected as the World Press Photo of 2010.



Bieber, who previously won eight World Press Photo awards, is only the second South African photographer to win the highest honour in the prestigious contest.

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South African literary classic *Jock of the Bushveld* was turned into the country's first 3D-animation film and featured the voices of, among others, Bryan Adams and global peace icon Desmond Tutu.



Based on the 1907 bestseller by Percy Fitzpatrick, who detailed his true-life bush adventures during the 1880s gold rush with his pup Jock, the film made more than R2,2 million at the box office in its opening weekend.

seasons in 2011. The 2011 season included full-length productions of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Sleeping Beauty*, as well as its annual year-end concert.

Visual arts

Art galleries in South Africa's major cities (such as the Durban Art Gallery in KwaZulu-Natal; the Johannesburg Art Gallery in Gauteng; the South African National Gallery in Cape Town; and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum in Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape) display collections of indigenous, historical and contemporary work.

Universities also play an important role in acquiring artwork of national interest.

These include collections housed in the Gertrude Posel Gallery at Wits, the University of South Africa Gallery in Pretoria, the Edoardo Villa Museum and other galleries at the University of Pretoria, and a collection of contemporary Indian art at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Crafts

The craft industry has been identified as a strategic sector for the economic upliftment of South Africans. The crafts industry has the potential to create meaningful jobs and the Department of Arts and Culture has begun to consolidate the marketing and distribution of South African products to international markets such as Art Mundi in Brazil.

Film

The South African film and television industry is valued at around R12 billion a year and creates direct and indirect jobs for more than 30 000 people.

Funding for film production increased from 6,9 million in 2009/10 to R8,7 million in 2010/11.

There was an estimated 20% increase in the number of bed nights used by film producers in Cape Town in the 2010/11 summer season, compared with the previous summer. Most came from Britain and Europe (Germany, Italy, Spain and the Scandinavian countries) but also from the USA and increasingly India.

By the third quarter of 2010/11, 3 793 permits had been issued for, among other productions, South African, Italian, Dutch, American, British and Indian productions.

The National Film and Video Foundation develops and promotes the film and video industry in South Africa. It is also involved in the development of projects that appeal to targeted audiences and have greater commercial returns. The foundation disburses grants for developing and producing feature films, short films, television series, documentaries and animation projects, as well as bursaries for students from other countries. This ensures a South African presence at major local and international film markets, festivals and exhibitions.

Literature

The South African book sector has become globally competitive and the country's writers continue to command respect across the world.

The total net turnover of the book publishing industry in 2010 was estimated to be worth R3,4 billion. More than 12 000 authors earned an estimated R1,8 billion worth of royalties. The publishing industry employs about 3 000 individuals on a full-time basis and 2 400 freelancers.

More than 7 000 people are employed in the printing industry.

Electronic books downloaded onto a special reading device is gaining in popularity. In 2010, this subsector earned about R1,2 million with a total of 524 titles available.

The new pop culture in poetry, often referred to as "spoken-word poetry", is one of the most celebrated art forms throughout the country and beyond. Poets such as Lesego Rampolokeng, Lebogang Mashile, Kgafela oa Magogodi, Blaq Pearl, Jessica Mbangeni and Mark Manaka are household names in the genre. There are regular platforms created to give these poets opportunities to hone their skills.

The current generation of writers is also making its mark on the world stage, with writers such as Zakes Mda, Nig Mhlongo

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Cape Town hosted the 29th International Publishers Association Publishers Congress from 12 – 14 June 2012 in the week preceding the sixth Cape Town Book Fair.



and the late K Sello Duiker having their novels translated into languages such as Dutch, German and Spanish.

The Department of Arts and Culture in collaboration with the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) is reprinting some out-of-print books that are considered as classics in indigenous African languages.

A total of 27 titles in all the nine previously marginalised languages were reproduced and distributed to public libraries across the nation.

The department embarked on the second phase of the project, which involved the re-issuing of a total of 18 titles (two in each indigenous language). These titles include

National anthem

The national anthem is a combined version of Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika (God bless Africa) and The Call of South Africa (Die Stem).

Nkosi sikelel' i Afrika Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo, Yizwa imithandazo yethu, Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso, O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho, O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso, Setjhaba sa South Afrika – South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel, Uit die diepte van ons see, Oor ons ewige gebergtes, Waar die kranse antwoord gee.

Sounds the call to come together, And united we shall stand, Let us live and strive for freedom, In South Africa our land

National symbols

South Africa's national symbols are:



National animal: Springbok



National bird: Blue Crane



National fish: Galjoen



National flower: King Protea



National tree: Real Yellowwood

National orders

South Africa's national orders are:



The Order of the Baobab





The Order of the Mapungubwe Companions of OR Tambo



The Order of Luthuli



The Order of Mendi for Bravery



The Order of Ikhamanga

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Apha Naphaya by DM Jongilanga, Ikusasa Alaziwa by OTM Nxumalo and Megokgo ya Bjoko by Oliver Kgadime Matsepe.

Museums

More than 300 of the approximately 1 000 museums in Africa are in South Africa. The Department of Arts and Culture subsidises most museums, which are otherwise autonomous.

The department pays an annual subsidy to 13 national museums, ensuring the preservation of artefacts and collections that are important to all South Africans.

National Library of South Africa

The NLSA is a custodian and provider of the nation's key knowledge resources. It is mandated by the NLSA Act, 1998 to collect and preserve intellectual documentary heritage material and to make it accessible worldwide. It ensures that knowledge and information are not lost to posterity and are available for future research.