





# Arts and culture



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

## Funding

A large portion of the department's budget is dedicated to supporting and developing institutional infrastructure to showcase, restore and preserve South Africa's heritage for future generations.

The Arts and Culture in Society Programme develops and promotes arts and culture in South Africa and mainstreams their role in social development. It funds performing arts institutions, orchestras, the National Arts Council (NAC) and the Promotion of Arts and Culture in South Africa Subprogramme. During 2004/05, the department funded the establishment of two large instrumental ensembles – one in Cape Town and the other in Johannesburg. A music training programme directed at township youth in Gauteng also received a grant.

The department funds six playhouses. In 2004/05, it contributed over R89 million towards the running of these institutions.

In 2005/06, the performing arts institutions received just over R97,7 million. The combined budget for the declared cultural institutions was over R237 million.

The NAC received an increased budget of R47,9 million in 2005/06. The Pan South African Language Board (PanSALB) received R26,2 million and the National Film and Video Foundation (NFVF) R24,6 million. The National Heritage Council (NHC) received R17,4 million and the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) R24,298 million.

## National symbols

### National anthem

South Africa's national anthem is a combined version of *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika* and *The Call of South Africa (Die Stem van Suid-Afrika)*. *The Call of South Africa* was written by C.J. Langenhoven in May 1918. The music was composed by the Rev. M.L. de Villiers in 1921. *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika* was composed in 1897 by Enoch Sontonga, a Methodist mission school teacher.

The words of the first stanza were originally written in isiXhosa as a hymn. Seven additional stanzas in isiXhosa were later added by the poet Samuel Mqhayi. It has been translated into most of South Africa's official languages.

### National flag

South Africa's national flag was launched and used for the first time on Freedom Day, 27 April 1994. The design and colours are a synopsis of the principal elements of the country's flag history.

The central design of the flag, beginning at the flag-pole in a 'V' form and flowing into a single horizontal band to the outer edge of the fly, can be interpreted as the convergence of diverse elements within South African society, taking the road ahead in unity. The flag was designed by the State Herald.

When the flag is displayed vertically against a wall, the red band should be to the left of the viewer, with the hoist or the cord seam at the top. When it is displayed horizontally, the hoist should be to the left of the viewer and the red band at the top. When the flag is displayed next to or behind the speaker at a meeting, it must be placed to the speaker's right. When it is placed elsewhere in the meeting place, it should be to the right of the audience.

### National coat of arms

South Africa's coat of arms was launched on Freedom Day, 27 April 2000.

A focal point of the coat of arms is the indigenous secretary bird with its uplifted wings, crowned with an image of the rising sun. The sun not only symbolises a life-giving force, but represents the flight of darkness and the triumph of discovery, knowledge and understanding of things that have been hidden. It also illuminates the new life that is coming into being. An indigenous South African flower, the protea, is placed below the bird. It represents beauty, the aesthetic harmony of the different cultures, and South Africa flowering as a nation. The ears of wheat symbolise the fertility of the land, while the tusks of the African elephant, depicted in pairs to represent men and women, also represent wisdom, steadfastness and strength.

The shield, placed in the centre, signifies the protection of South Africans from one generation to the next. The spear and a knobkierie above it are representative of the defence of peace rather than the pursuit of war. This shield of peace, which also brings to mind an African drum, conveys the message of a people imbued with a love of culture. Its upper part is a shield imaginatively represented by the protea.

Contained within the shield are some of the earliest representations of humanity in the world. Those depicted were the very first inhabitants of the land, namely the Khoisan people. These figures are derived from images on the Linton Stone, a world-famous example of South African rock art. The motto on the coat of arms, *Ike e: xarra/ke*, written in the Khoisan language of the /Xam people, means 'diverse people unite' or 'people who are different joining together'.

### National orders

National orders are the highest awards that the country can bestow on individual South Africans and eminent foreign leaders and personalities.

The Order of Mapungubwe is awarded to South African citizens for excellence and exceptional achievement.

The Order of the Baobab is awarded to South African citizens for distinguished service in the fields of business and the economy; science, medicine and technological innovation; and community service.

The Order of the Companions of O.R. Tambo is awarded to heads of state and other dignitaries for promoting peace, co-operation and friendship towards South Africa.

The Order of Luthuli is awarded to South Africans who have made a meaningful contribution to the struggle for democracy, human rights, nation-building, justice and peace, and conflict resolution.

The Order of Ikhamanga is awarded to South African citizens who have excelled in the fields of arts, culture, literature, music, journalism and sport.

The Order of the Mendi Decoration for Bravery is awarded to South African citizens who have performed extraordinary acts of bravery.

# National symbols and orders



National bird: Blue Crane



National fish: Galjoen



National animal: Springbok



National tree: Real Yellowwood



National flower: King Protea



The Order of the Baobab



The Order of Mapungubwe



The Order of the  
Companions of O.R. Tambo



The Order of Luthuli



The Order of the  
Mendi Decoration  
for Bravery



The Order of Ikhamanga

## 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.

## Arts and culture organisations

### National Heritage Council

The NHC, a statutory body that aims to bring equity to heritage promotion and conservation, was launched in February 2004.

The 23-member council was appointed by the Minister of Arts and Culture in terms of the NHC Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999), to:

- develop, promote and protect the national heritage for present and future generations
- co-ordinate heritage management
- protect, preserve and promote the content and heritage that reside in oration to make it accessible and dynamic
- integrate living heritage with the functions and activities of the council and all other heritage authorities and institutions at national, provincial and local level
- promote and protect indigenous knowledge systems
- intensify support for promoting the history and culture of all South Africans, and particularly support for research and publications on enslavement in South Africa.

Transfers to the NHC started at R16,7 million in 2004/05, rose to R17,4 million in 2005/06 and are expected to reach R19,6 million in 2007/08.

### South African Heritage Resources Agency

The National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999), established the SAHRA to manage the heritage resources of the country in co-operation with similar provincial agencies.

The SAHRA has established the National Heritage Resources Fund to provide financial assistance, in the form of a grant or a loan, to an approved body or individual, for any project which contributes to the conservation and protection of South Africa's national heritage resources.

Conservation categories include:

- national heritage sites, registers, areas and objects
- protected areas
- structures over 60 years old
- burial grounds and graves
- fossils (palaeontology) and archaeology
- rock art
- historical shipwrecks.

### South African Geographical Names Council (SAGNC)

The SAGNC is an advisory body appointed by the Minister of Arts and Culture in terms of the SAGNC Act, 1998 (Act 118 of 1998). The council advises the minister on the transformation and standardisation of official geographical names in South Africa.

The council has jurisdiction over all names of geographical features and entities falling within the territories over which the South African Government has sovereignty or jurisdiction acquired by treaty.

The following principles are adhered to:

- each individual feature or entity should have only one official name
- the following types of geographical names should generally be avoided:
  - approved names of places elsewhere in South Africa
  - names of places in other countries, and names of countries
  - names that are blasphemous, indecent, offensive, vulgar, unaesthetic or embarrassing
  - names that are discriminatory or derogatory
  - names that may be regarded as an advertisement for a particular product, service or firm
  - names of living persons.

Geographical names committees have been established in all nine provinces. These provincial committees play an important role in the standardisation of geographical names.

# The national anthem

**Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika  
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 Arts Council of South Africa

The NAC took over the structures and responsibilities of the Foundation of the Creative Arts on 29 October 1997.

The NAC aims to:

- support arts practice by creating and providing opportunities to achieve excellence in the arts, within a climate of freedom
- achieve equity by redressing imbalances in the allocation of resources
- promote and develop appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts through strategies that include education, information and marketing
- enhance support for and recognition of the arts by promoting and facilitating national and international liaison between individuals and institutions
- establish and recommend policy in the development, practice and funding of the arts.

The NAC supports several genres, such as music and opera, literature, the visual arts, crafts, theatre and musical theatre, dance and choreography, and multidisciplinary arts. It supports and funds a range of individuals and groups.

It also offers block bursaries to tertiary institutions for undergraduate students. Individual bursaries are offered for studies towards a postgraduate qualification in South Africa and abroad.

During 2004/05, the council made grants available to 500 projects and 60 performing arts companies in the disciplines of theatre, dance and music. The number of projects benefiting during 2005/06 was expected to increase to 800.

### Mmino

Mmino, a South Africa-Norwegian education and



In March 2005, the Department of Arts and Culture launched the *Arts in Prisons* Campaign. It uses the arts to rehabilitate offenders, thereby contributing to social cohesion and social justice.

music programme, hosted by the NAC in close co-operation with the Norwegian Concert Institute, is the only funding programme in South Africa that funds music projects exclusively.

Since the inception of the Mmino Programme in August 2000, 176 projects have been funded. Funds are allocated twice a year.

Mmino aims to support projects with national impact in the areas of music education, documentation, research and exchange, choral music and festivals. The goal of Mmino is to strengthen South Africa's musical cultures.

### Living Treasures

The Living Treasures Project aims to create a living treasure of artists who are still alive and who have contributed to a democratic South Africa. Award recipients include Mr Jackson Hlongwane, Ms Matshidiso Motimele, Prof. Es'kia Mphahlele, Mr Winston Ntshona, Ms Maria Zulu, Mr Abner Mahlaba, Mr Alfred Nokwe and Ms Thandi Zulu.

### Arts institutions

The following arts institutions assist in creating a sustainable performing arts industry based on access, excellence, diversity and redress, and encourage the development of the full range of performing arts:

- State Theatre
- Playhouse Company
- ArtsCape
- Market Theatre
- Performing Arts Centre of the Free State
- Windybrow Theatre
- KwaZulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra
- Cape Philharmonic Orchestra
- Gauteng Orchestra.

The institutions receive annual transfers from the Department of Arts and Culture, but also generate revenue through entrance fees, donor assistance and sponsorships.

### Business Arts South Africa (BASA)

BASA was launched in 1997 as a joint initiative between the Government, through the Department

of Arts and Culture, and the business sector. It promotes and encourages sustainable partnerships between the business and the arts sectors, to their mutual benefit and that of the community at large. With funding from government, BASA has introduced the supporting grant scheme, whereby additional funds are made available to sponsor arts organisations or events.

BASA is a member of the International Network of Business Arts Associations, linking with similar organisations internationally.

*Business Day* continues to partner BASA in its annual awards, which acknowledge the importance of private sponsorships in the development of the arts.

BASA offers corporate membership to major companies and receives funding by way of subscriptions paid by these companies. In March 2004, membership stood at 101 corporate members and plans were to increase its membership to 200 paid-up corporate members by the end of 2005. It further intended to increase the number of regional representatives and to leverage the interest in itself and art through media partnerships.

BASA made grants to the value of R2,5 million during the 2003/04 financial year.

## Arts and Culture Trust (ACT)

ACT was launched in October 1994 to finance and manage funding for the arts in South Africa. The trust, with former President Nelson Mandela as its chief patron, has Nedbank, Sun International, the Ministry of Arts and Culture, Vodacom and the Dutch Government as its major funders. The trust also seeks to build a better arts and culture dispensation through proactive initiatives such as:

- fora, conferences and campaigns around strategic issues, such as support for the arts through the National Lottery
- the annual ACT Awards, which recognise the important contributions of role-players such as administrators, journalists and educators
- establishing mutually beneficial relationships between the trust and the arts and culture community.

ACT is the oldest independent body established to fund arts and culture in post-apartheid South Africa.

It has disbursed almost R10 million to more than 400 projects in all disciplines since 1996 including, but not limited to, arts administration, arts education, community art, festivals, heritage art, crafts, fine art, dance, music, theatre, film and video, literature, multidisciplinary art and new media. With renewed support from all of the founding trustees, ACT was expected to disburse a further R1,5 million during the 2005 funding cycle. A portion of these funds were expected to be made available for bursaries to formal and non-formal educational institutions specialising in arts and culture.

## Other cultural organisations

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations and other cultural projects that were previously not considered for funding are now being funded.

Community art centres are positioned to be the leading centres for poverty-alleviation programmes in both rural and urban communities.

Successful local projects take place in many community arts centres. For example, in 2004/05, the Department of Arts and Culture provided funds for equipment at the Mdantsane Music School.

A community arts centre was established in Jagersfontein, an impoverished Free State rural town. Support also included the purchasing of industrial sewing machines for a women's group in the Queenstown Arts Centre in an Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme (ISRDP) node; a women's sewing project in Sekhukhuneland, also in an ISRDP node; a women's weaving project at Ingwe; and the Mtubatuba Craft Project in KwaZulu-Natal. These projects have the potential to grow into small businesses.

## Arts and culture initiatives

### 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.



Several national legacy projects were initiated by government to establish commemorative symbols of South Africa's history and celebrate its heritage.

The legacy projects include the:

- **Women's Monument:** On 9 August 2000, President Thabo Mbeki unveiled a monument to commemorate the contribution of the women of South Africa to the struggle for freedom. The ceremony marked the day, in 1956, when 20 000 women marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest against government's pass laws.
- **Chief Albert Luthuli's house in KwaDukuza, KwaZulu-Natal,** has been restored by the Department of Arts and Culture as a museum with a visitors' interpretative centre. The project also involved the unveiling of Chief Luthuli's sculpture at the KwaDukuza municipal grounds. On 21 March 2004, the first of the Annual Chief Albert Luthuli lectures was held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. A posthumous doctoral degree was conferred on Chief Luthuli. President Mbeki launched the legacy project on 21 August 2004.
- **Battle of Blood River/Ncome Project:** Following the unveiling of the Ncome Monument and Wall of Remembrance on 16 December 1998, the Ncome Museum was opened on 26 November 1999. The structures honour the role played by the Zulu nation in the battle.
- **Samora Machel Project:** The Samora Machel Monument in Mbuzini, Mpumalanga, was unveiled on 19 October 1998.
- **Nelson Mandela Museum:** The museum was opened on 11 February 2000. It is being developed as a single component comprising three elements, namely a museum in Umtata, a youth centre at Qunu, and a visitors' centre in Mvezo, where the former President was born.
- **Constitution Hill Project:** The Old Fort Prison in Hillbrow, Johannesburg, was developed into a multidimensional and multipurpose precinct that houses the Constitutional Court (CC) and accommodates various constitutional commissions. As part of the 10 Years of Freedom celebrations, the new CC building was officially opened in March 2004. The Constitution Hill

project involved the development of the Constitutional Hill precinct to accommodate the CC, the Constitution Museum, the Nelson Mandela Library and a commercial precinct.

- **Khoisan Project:** Consultation with relevant role-players at national, provincial and local level has been initiated to promote and protect the Khoisan heritage. It was decided to develop a heritage trail that will showcase the heritage of the Khoisan people.
- **Freedom Park Project:** Construction of the Freedom Park Project, a memorial to the anti-apartheid struggle at Salvokop in Pretoria, began in 2002.

The first phase of the R560-million memorial site was handed over to government in March 2004. This phase, costing R45 million, involved the design and construction of the Garden of Remembrance for the country's departed freedom fighters. The second phase was expected to commence in October 2005, with the building of a museum and interpretation centre.

Additional legacy projects were expected to be announced in 2005/06.

## Education and training

Training is critical for the development of arts and culture, to achieve both the developmental and economic potential of the sector.

The creative industries form part of the Media, Advertising, Publishing, Printing and Packaging Sector Education and Training Authority (MAPPP-SETA).

Recognising the challenges facing this sector, the MAPPP-SETA, in partnership with the departments of arts and culture and of labour, the NAC and the NFVF, initiated the CREATE SA (Creative Research Education and Training Enterprise South Africa) Strategic Project to develop a comprehensive on-the-job training framework for the creative industries. The project is funded by the National Skills Fund and the Department of Arts and Culture, and focuses on people who otherwise might not have had access to training opportunities.

Through CREATE SA, learnerships driven by industry demand have been awarded in a wide range

of areas, including music, design, crafts, arts management, heritage and the performing arts.

The Cultural Development and International Co-operation Programme is responsible for the Investing in Culture Programme. It focuses on the crafts, music, heritage and cultural tourism sectors. Investing in Culture identifies and uses existing skills within communities and among individuals. It is the single most significant intervention the department is making in the Second Economy.

It has sites located in all the urban and rural nodes in most provinces of South Africa. Currently, these projects are funded in three-yearly cycles. The nodes include Alexandra, Mdantsane, Motherwell, O.R. Tambo region, Ukhahlamba district, Khayelitsha, Mitchell's Plain, Galeshewe and Kalahari-Kgalagadi. There are others in Inanda, KwaMashu, Indonsa, Umkhanyakude in the Lubombo Corridor, Ugu district, Sekhukhune cross-border district and Thabo Mofutsanyane district. They were started in response to demands from the poor living in these areas.

Since 2001, the Department of Arts and Culture has recast what used to be a poverty-alleviation programme into Investing in Culture. With the projects it has initiated, the department hopes to make a meaningful impact in these targeted areas:

- in music, 2 000 jobs can be created both directly and indirectly through small and medium enterprises and Black Economic Empowerment projects
- its intervention in craft and design will see the creation of 4 000 jobs
- in books and publishing, an estimated 500 jobs will be created
- in film and video, 2 000 jobs will be created
- in the heritage sector, 1 000 jobs will be created
- in the archives and libraries division, 200 jobs will be created
- through the Directorate: Arts and Culture in Society, 500 jobs will be created
- in a language development programme, 100 jobs will be created through learnerships
- within the area of heraldry, 200 jobs will be created
- within the performing arts, 1 500 jobs can be created by boosting the technical services pro-

gramme to stimulate transformation and facilitate human resource development.

The department aims to create 10 000 job opportunities in designated poverty nodes.

The majority of the beneficiaries of these projects will be women and young people, who constitute the majority of the poverty-stricken and unemployed.

The department committed R249 million to be spent between 2004/05 and 2006/07 towards these projects. These funds will be spread over all nine provinces, but with a focus on the poorest ones.

More information is available at [www.createsa.org.za](http://www.createsa.org.za).

## Cultural tourism

Cultural tourism is one of the most rapidly growing sectors of the multibillion-Rand international tourism industry, and is an area in which South Africa is well-placed to compete. Professional and innovative museums, galleries and theatres are key attractions for cultural tourists.

## Cultural villages

Most tourists visiting South Africa are eager to explore the country's cultural diversity. At the same time, an increasing number of local tourists want to learn more about the people they were separated from under apartheid. (See chapter 21: *Tourism*.)



In February 2005, former President Nelson Mandela formally donated more than 2 000 gifts and awards he received during his tenure as the first democratically elected President of South Africa (1994 – 1999) to the nation. The event coincided with the Nelson Mandela Museum's fifth anniversary celebrations.

Awards include honorary fellowships, freedom of the city awards, honorary citizenships, honorary degrees, peace and human rights awards, literary awards, media awards and orders of merit from more than 50 countries around the world. Among these is the Official Presidential Medallion commemorating Mr Mandela's Presidential inauguration in 1994.

Various projects around the country offer insight into South Africa's cultural wealth, ranging from traditional dances and rituals in rural areas, to excursions into the urban and township milieux that give South Africa its defining features. These include Khaya Lendaba near Port Elizabeth; the Basotho Cultural Village situated in the QwaQwa Nature Reserve near Harrismith, Free State; the Makhosini Cultural Village and Tourism Initiative in the Valley of Kings at Umgungundlovu in KwaZulu-Natal; Lesedi Cultural Village near Johannesburg; Tlhologo in Magaliesburg; the KoMjekejeke Cultural Village north of Pretoria; the Mapoch Ndebele Village in Winterveld, north-west of Pretoria; the Gaabo Motho Cultural Village in Mabopane; the Rainbow Cultural Village west of the Hartbeespoort Dam, North West; Botshabelo in Middelburg, Mpumalanga; and Shangana in Hazzyview, Mpumalanga.

## Cultural Industries Growth Strategy

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 developing public-private partnerships and other initiatives that use culture as a tool for urban regeneration.

Through financial support to the NFVF, the department encourages and ensures the growth of the film industry. The music industry task team set up by the minister has outlined 37 recommendations, which include the development of enabling legislation and the economic growth of the industry. The department continues to support industry initiatives that are consistent with the objectives of job creation and economic development. To this end, it is also focusing on the design, craft and publishing sectors.

## International relations

The Department of Arts and Culture's participation in various activities in the international cultural arena

helps to identify, promote and exploit mutually beneficial partnerships for social and economic development in South Africa.

Collaborations involve about 39 countries, including Mexico, Tunisia, France and Brazil, as well as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and the Southern African Development Community. Overseas development aid programmes and international agreements or partnerships have been established with a number of countries.

Together with the African Union (AU) and New Partnership for Africa's Development, South Africa has embarked on the road to restore, preserve and protect African heritage. In 2004, South Africa was elected chair of the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee.

In July 2005, South Africa hosted the conference in Durban. Some 180 countries are signatories to the World Heritage Convention. This was the first time the World Heritage Committee met in sub-Saharan Africa since the convention was adopted in 1972. With other African countries, and with the support of the AU, South Africa drafted an African position paper, outlining the 10-year strategy for the preservation of Africa's heritage.

## Arts festivals

The range of arts festivals around South Africa offers visitors the opportunity to combine their pursuit of culture with sightseeing, wine tasting, beach visits, wildlife viewing, history, palaeoanthropology and relaxing in some of South Africa's most beautiful spots.

The National Arts Festival, held annually in July in Grahamstown, Eastern Cape, is one of the largest and most diverse arts gatherings of its kind staged in Africa, rating favourably with similar international festivals. It showcases southern African talent in all arts disciplines.

There is also growing interest and participation from artists in other African countries and from the rest of the world.

The *Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees* is a vibrant festival for the performing arts, presented mainly, but not exclusively, in Afrikaans. It is held annually in

Oudtshoorn in the first quarter of the year. Disciplines include drama, cabaret and contemporary and classical music.

The Arts Alive International Festival, held in Johannesburg, is an annual festival of music, dance, theatre and performance-poetry.

Heritage reclamation festivals are also emerging at local level in communities destroyed by apartheid such as Vrededorp (Fietas) in Johannesburg.

The Mangaung Cultural Festival (Macufe) is gaining status as one of the biggest cultural tourism events in southern Africa.

Aardklop, held annually in Potchefstroom, 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; 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; and the Windybrown Theatre Festival in Johannesburg.

The Department of Arts and Culture and the NAC support numerous festivals throughout South Africa, including the Cape Town International Jazz Festival (formerly the North Sea Jazz Festival), Port St Johns Festival, Splashy Fen Music Festival in Durban and the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown.

The departments of arts and culture and of environmental affairs and tourism have established a forum of festival directors to maximise tourism opportunities.

## Theatre

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.

Apart from early productions, notably the groundbreaking musical *King Kong* in the 1960s, theatre created in South Africa by South Africans only began to make an impact with the advent of Johannesburg's innovative Market Theatre in the mid-1970s,

just as the cultural, sporting and academic boycott was taking hold.

The performing arts marketed South Africa to overseas audiences most effectively during the 1980s, specifically through theatre and musical productions.

South African theatre is internationally acclaimed as unique and top-class.

## Music

South African music is characterised by its fusion of diverse musical forms. It generates R900 million a year and employs over 12 000 people.

South Africa has nurtured the development of an array of distinctive styles of music, and it has contributed significantly to music heard on the continent.

These styles range from South African jazz, which describes a range of music from early marabi-



The South African Music Awards ceremony was held in April 2005. The winners were:

- Best African Gospel Album – Deborah for *Ngixolele*
- Best Contemporary Gospel Album – Joyous Celebration for *Joyous Celebration 8*
- Best South African Traditional Jazz – McCoy Mrubata for *Livumile Icamagu*
- Best Contemporary Jazz Album – Tlala Makhene
- Best Adult Contemporary Album – Thandiswa Mazwai for *Zabalaza*
- Best Adult Contemporary Album Afrikaans – Coenie de Villiers
- Best Adult Contemporary Album English – Nianell
- Best Music Video – Supervillain for *Indoda* by Mandoza
- Best Pop Album – Mandoza and Danny K for *Same Difference*
- Best Rock Album – Sugardrive
- Best Dance Album – Lebo Mathosa for *Drama Queen*
- Best Rap Album – Mr Selwyn
- Best Afro Pop – Mafikizolo
- Best Newcomer – Simphiwe Dana
- Best Duo or Group – Revolution
- Best Kwaito Album – Brown Dash
- Best Female Artist – Thandiswa Mazwai
- Best Male Artist – Themba Mkhize
- Song of the Year – Brown Dash for *Phansi Komthunzi Welanga*

inspired sounds in the late-1930s and 1940s by bands like the Merry Blackbirds Orchestra, to current performers such as trumpeter Hugh Masekela and others.

Kwaito music is very popular. It combines elements of rap, reggae, hip-hop and other musical styles into a distinctly South African style. Popular kwaito musicians include Arthur Mafokate, Mzekezeke, Bongo Maffin, Zola, Skwatta Kamp, Mandoza and Mdu.

Music is one of the key cultural industries identified in the *Cultural Industrial Growth Strategy Report*, and government has committed itself to harnessing its potential. In addition to its cultural value, music plays an important economic role in the country, generating significant copyright revenue.

In music, the department has solid foundations to build on. These include the annual South African

Music Week, the in-school education programme run in conjunction with the Department of Education, and the Music in Public Spaces Initiative.

The department's three-year plan for music includes establishing a legal aid facility for musicians, setting up a benevolent fund for artists, establishing a music industry export council, and implementing a levy on blank tapes. It also aimed to introduce a regulatory framework in 2005 to standardise contracts and work permits for musicians.

The Cape Town International Jazz Festival secured South Africa's position on the international jazz circuit when it was hosted on African soil for the first time in March 2001.

### Indigenous music

The department funds the annual National Traditional Dance and Music Festival called *Zindala Zombili*, under the auspices of the African Cultural Heritage Trust. This platform showcases and promotes the rich and diverse indigenous traditional dance and music of South Africa.

The festival consists of 22 regional and eight provincial competitions, culminating in a national festival.

### 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 the trifles of everyday life.

An informal but highly versatile performance venue in Johannesburg, The Dance Factory, provides a permanent platform for a variety of dance and movement groups.

The Wits Theatre (part of the University of the Witwatersrand) is also a popular dance venue. It is



The Department of Arts and Culture is involved in the South African Presidential Initiative of South African and Malian Co-operation on the Timbuktu Manuscripts. This has been adopted as a New Partnership for Africa's Development Cultural Project.

The historically important West African town of Timbuktu was once a regional centre of commerce and scholarship.

The Timbuktu manuscripts cover a range of subjects, including astronomy, optics, chemistry, mathematics, botany, traditional medicines, law, philosophy, conflict resolution and musicology. The immediate challenge is to preserve and conserve this wealth of knowledge.

South Africa has been involved in the training of Malian conservators working at the Ahmed Baba Centre, Timbuktu. Hosted by the National Archives of South Africa, five conservators were trained at the Conservation Studios, Pretoria, and at the National Library, Cape Town.

The project also aims to raise funds in South Africa to rebuild and restore the Ahmed Baba Centre. A team of South African architects, engineers and builders have visited Mali to initiate the construction programme.

This forms part of reclaiming and embracing Africa's rich cultural heritage. South African and Malian leaders believe that the manuscripts will stimulate academic study and research in a range of subjects.

home to the annual First National Bank (FNB) Dance Umbrella.

This annual festival of contemporary choreography and dance offers a free platform for original new work, to promote the development of creative talent on every level.

The FNB Dance Umbrella hosts community and youth groups, young up-and-coming choreographers and established South African and international dance companies.

The FNB Dance Umbrella 2005, held in February and March, featured 19 programmes of work that was representative of all forms of contemporary South African choreography and dance – including 10 commissioned new works.

The Cape Town City Ballet, started in 1934 as the University of Cape Town Ballet Company, is the oldest ballet company in the country.

## 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 King George VI Gallery in Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape, showcase collections of indigenous, historical and contemporary works.

Universities also play an important role in acquiring artwork of national interest. These include, among others, collections housed in the Gertrude Posel Gallery of the University of the Witwatersrand, the University of South Africa (UNISA) gallery in Pretoria, the Edoardo Villa Museum and other galleries at the University of Pretoria, a collection of contemporary Indian art at the University of Durban-Westville and a collection of medieval and early Renaissance wood sculptures, as well as some fine examples of German expressionist graphic art, at the University of Stellenbosch. There are also several corporate collections of national interest, including those of Standard Bank, Absa Bank and the MTN cellular phone network.

The Department of Arts and Culture supports a number of projects that promote the visual arts. These range from arts publications and women-

empowerment programmes to national and international exhibitions and infrastructure funding.

## Photography

With its scenic beauty, abundant wildlife, diversity of cultures and rich historical heritage, South Africa is a photographers' paradise. Many South African photographers have been acclaimed for their work, which feature in coffee-table books, documentaries, local and overseas exhibitions, magazines and newspapers.

National and international photographic exhibitions and competitions are held in South Africa annually, and various national awards are bestowed on local photographers. South Africa is especially well-known for its excellent wildlife photography. The Agfa Wildlife & Environment Photographic Awards, presented for the first time in 1981, has become one of Africa's most prestigious wildlife photographic competitions, attracting entries from top wildlife photographers, not only from Africa, but throughout the world.

## Architecture

South Africa has a rich architectural heritage to which all the cultural groups in the country have contributed. Through the centuries, a trend in South



The 2005 New Music Indaba, held during the National Arts Festival in July, in Grahamstown, examined the music of Africa under the theme *Reimagining Africa*.

The annual indaba is held under the auspices of New Music SA, the South African section of the International Society for Contemporary Music.

The 2005 indaba took participants on a virtual tour of the African continent, examining how composers construct their African identities.

The work of some 40 composers and improvisers, mostly African, but also from Europe and North America, featured in the course of 13 concerts.

The indaba marked the Enoch Sontonga centenary with the performance of different versions of his well-known *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika* throughout the event.

Africa's architectural style has developed, which has been referred to as an innovative marrying of traditions. Today, this is evident in the variety of architectural structures found all over the country, ranging from humble dwellings, historical homesteads and public buildings, to modern commercial buildings reflecting state-of-the-art technology and designs that are on a par with the best in the world. Schools of architecture exist within various South African universities, including the universities of Pretoria, Stellenbosch, Natal, Cape Town and the Witwatersrand.

The SAHRA conserves buildings of historical or architectural value. More than 4 000 buildings, sites and other objects (including trees) have been declared national monuments.

Heritage South Africa is a non-profit private organisation that conserves South Africa's variety of architectural gems.

### Rock art

There are many traces of ancient cultures that existed in the country in the distant past. The San people left a priceless and unique collection of Stone Age paintings and engravings in South Africa, which is also the largest in the world. The mountains, especially the Drakensberg range and those in the Cape, are home to fascinating rock art panels.

Rock engravings are scattered on flat rock surfaces and boulders throughout the interior. The artworks mainly depict hunter-gatherers and their relationship with the animal world and historical events, as well as interaction with and observation of new-

comers encroaching upon their living space. Indigenous people with spears and Nguni cattle, Khoikhoi fat-tailed sheep, European settlers on horseback with rifles and wagons, and ships and soldiers in uniform were captured in surprising detail.

Immortalised visions of the artists' spiritual world are found on the sandstone canvases. These depict complex symbols and metaphors to illustrate the supernatural powers and potency they received from nature.

The oldest dated rock art in South Africa, an engraved stone, was discovered in a living floor some 10 200 years old at the Wonderwerk Cave near Kuruman in the Northern Cape.

The oldest painted stones (6 400 years) were recovered at Boomplaas Cave in the Cango Valley near Oudtshoorn.

Three painted stones were also found at the Klasies River caves, which yielded the second-oldest painted stone, dating back 3 900 years.

The Department of Arts and Culture supports a number of projects, including a rock heritage project in Clanwilliam in the Western Cape.

### Crafts

The crafts industry in South Africa employs over 1,2 million people and generates an income of R3,5 billion a year. The crafts they produce are exported all over the world.

The development of South Africa's crafts industry is an ongoing priority for government, through the Department of Arts and Culture. Numerous stakeholders are involved in various initiatives to develop this sector.

The National Crafts Development Initiative, spearheaded by the NAC and supported by several national bodies, is one such example, providing a platform for developing the local market by staging craft fairs at various levels.

As a joint venture with the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Arts and Culture is developing a craft marketing strategy geared at enhancing export opportunities to curb the exploitation of crafters.



In 2006, the Publisher's Association of South Africa will team up with the Frankfurt Book Fair to host the first Cape Town Book Fair.

In 2004, the Frankfurt Book Fair attracted 270 413 visitors and 6 691 exhibitors from 110 countries.

The Cape Town Book Fair, to be held in June 2006, is expected to attract similar numbers of visitors.

Examples of successful craft projects include the rural development projects in Limpopo, where the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) linked with various rural craft projects to develop new products. In Thohoyandou, in Limpopo, the Ifa textile project is producing fashionable handbags in traditional Venda designs. Crafters of the Lubombo Spatial Development Initiative in northern KwaZulu-Natal have incorporated minimal interventions in their designs to produce butter dishes, thus creating new marketing opportunities.

The department has 115 craft projects in all nine provinces. The products of these and other projects can be viewed at a number of venues, including two state-assisted outlets at the Bus Factory in Newtown, Johannesburg and the Boardwalk in Port Elizabeth.

## Design

The Department of Arts and Culture has launched a number of initiatives aimed at creating centres of expertise. These have promoted collaborative ventures between the private and public sectors in areas of product design and the use of computer-aided design engineering. The initiatives involve the following:

- The launch of the National Product Development Centre at the CSIR. This initiative operates within a national framework, optimising the contributions of service-providers throughout the country in the area of design technology.
- The launch of the computer-aided design initiative at the CSIR, which is linked to the technology station at the Free State University of Technology, as well as similar institutions in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape.
- The establishment of the Cape Craft and Design Institute.
- The award of design learnerships through CREATE SA to help emerging designers.
- The annual Design Indaba Conference and Expo held in Cape Town in February. The Indaba is regarded as one of the premier design events in the world. The expo is a gallery, a marketplace, a school and a theatre showcasing the finest



In March 2005, the Minister of Arts and Culture, Dr Pallo Jordan, paid tribute to Prof. Mazisi Kunene in Durban, the winner of the South African National Laureate Prize, for his role in the preservation of African literature and history through poetry.

original South African design, covering everything from homeware and jewellery to architecture, fashion, film, multimedia and graphic design.

## Literature

South Africa has a vibrant and rich oral tradition. This form of expression goes back many centuries, and has been passed down from generation to generation as an important way of sharing advice, remembering history, telling stories and reflecting on contemporary society.

The African Languages Literary Museum at UNISA caters for all indigenous languages. Featured authors include Prof. Maja Serudu, E.M. Ramaila, O.K. Matsepe and Semakaleng Monyaise. The museum also features books, manuscripts, old typewriters used by certain African writers, antiques, and authors' portraits.

There is an English literary museum in Grahams-town and an Afrikaans museum in Bloemfontein.

The Print Industries Cluster Council established a writer's network in 2000.



In February 2005, Ladysmith Black Mambazo won the award for Best Traditional World Music Album at the 47th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, United States of America. The group sold over six million albums, making it the number-one record seller in Africa.

In a career spanning 30 years, the group has been nominated for nine Grammys. Its previous Grammy win was in 1987 for the album *Shaka Zulu*.



The National Language Service of the Department of Arts and Culture is encouraging the emergence of new literary magazines in English, Afrikaans and all the African languages. The department plans on consulting with publishers about the development of a national strategy to promote a reading culture in South Africa.

The department will also be addressing the challenge of preserving indigenous language writings dating from the mid-19th century. To achieve this, it will embark on initiatives to reproduce these old works in various African languages.

A comprehensive study on the print industry, funded by the Print Industries Cluster Council, established that the industry has an estimated annual turnover of R1,5 billion, pays royalties to some 8 309 authors/other parties, and employs more than 3 000 people.

In an effort to promote the craft of writing, particularly in indigenous languages, the Department of Arts and Culture is collaborating with Skotaville Media to establish a project that focuses on publishing emerging writers in all languages and across all genres. The key objective of this project is to assist previously marginalised writers, to begin a process of engaging publishers countrywide in addressing key social issues beyond profit, and to help develop indigenous languages.

The project kicked off in January 2005 and by April 2005, 60 manuscripts had been received. Thirty manuscripts in indigenous languages were being considered for publication.

The department has endorsed the concept of a literary heroes campaign, a project that will give recognition to writers who have made a significant

contribution to the development of South African literature in all the languages recognised by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act 108 of 1996).

The Department of Arts and Culture commissioned the Print Industries Cluster Council to conduct research on intellectual property rights in the print industries sector. This forms part of a broader initiative to identify policy and development needs in the cultural industries.

This initiative will be followed by the development of a national book policy, which will serve as a legal instrument providing a comprehensive framework to guide activities in the book and publishing industry. Such a policy will help to create the foundation necessary for establishing, developing and sustaining a viable national publishing industry that encourages the development of indigenous African languages.

Government established PanSALB to help promote the recognition, use and development of all official languages, with the emphasis on the previously disadvantaged indigenous languages.

The department has established language research and development centres for each official indigenous language. These centres focus, among other things, on the promotion of reading and writing in African languages. The department has budgeted R250 000 for each of these centres.

They work in collaboration with writers' associations and any other NGOs actively involved with writers' associations or individual authors. Workshops and seminars will be conducted to help those who are interested in indigenous languages.

Some R2 million has been dedicated to a pilot project aimed at developing literature in indigenous African languages. The department aims to identify and nurture new talent by creating an annual literary prize for new creative work in the indigenous languages, and will also offer an annual prize for established writers in indigenous languages.

About R1 million was set aside for the National Literature Exhibition, which was opened in May 2005.

In May 2005, the Minister of Arts and Culture, Dr Pallo Jordan, launched and presented the Literary Awards in Johannesburg, a first for Africa.



In March 2005, South African films won several awards at the Fespaco Film Festival. *Drum*, by Zola Maseko, won the Best Feature Film Award. *Zulu Love Letter* won the Award for Best Actress (Pamela Nomvete), as well as the European Union Award. *Max and Mona*, created by Teddy Mattered, won the Award for Best First Feature Film.

The awards, which recognise all official languages, promote the writing and reading of South African literature. Some of the lifetime achievers who received the first awards are:

- Prof. B. Breytenbach in Afrikaans
- Ms M. Poland in English
- Mr O.K. Matsepe, posthumously in Sesotho sa Leboa (Sepedi)
- Mr M.J. Ntsime in Setswana
- Mr K.P.D. Maphalla in Sesotho
- Prof. P.T. Mtuze in isiXhosa
- Prof. D.B.Z. Ntuli in isiZulu
- Mr B.D. Masango in isiNdebele
- Mr T.N. Maumela in Tshivenda
- Dr G.A. Malindzisa in siSwati
- Mr B.K.M. Ntombeni in Xitsonga.

## Film

The South African film industry, which is centred mainly in Cape Town and Johannesburg, generates some R518 million a year. The industry has a strong skills base, boasting more than 1 000 registered producers. Outstanding production and post-production facilities are also in place. The cost of film production in South Africa is 30% to 40% lower than in the USA, and 20% lower than in Australia.

The NFVF was established in terms of the NFVF Act, 1997 (Act 73 of 1997), to develop and promote the film and video industry in South Africa. It provides and promotes opportunities for people from disadvantaged communities to participate in the industry. The NFVF also promotes local film and video productions, supports the development of and access to the industry, and addresses historical imbalances in infrastructure, skills and resources in the industry.

During 2004, the NFVF allocated R36,9 million for the production of films and the development of the film industry. It was also involved in the development of projects that appeal to targeted audiences and have greater commercial returns. It ensured a South African presence at international film markets, festivals, trade fairs and exhibitions.

The foundation aims to attract more foreign and local investment in the film industry by making available and managing training and development

grants, establishing a national strategy for film education and training, and ensuring that research is conducted into audience appeal.

During 2004/05, the foundation received R34,7 million, including a once-off payment of R11,9 million to implement the Film Fund to support the local film industry.

The NFVF also participated in the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa's inquiry into local content targets for broadcasting and other initiatives throughout the country that aim to boost the film and video industry.

Strategic initiatives undertaken by the NFVF include the establishment of the Sectoral Information System, Demand Simulation and Audience Development and the development of local content.

The industry received a major boost with the launch of the Film and Television Production Rebate by the Department of Trade and Industry in June 2004.

The rebate complements existing support measures. It aims to provide for the production of both foreign and local large-budget films made in South Africa or under co-production agreements.

For a company to be eligible for the rebate, it must be a South African resident company, or a non-South African resident company with a South African business registration that is operating with a permanent establishment in the country.

A number of large South African media companies have acquired production companies to increase their capabilities in the media and entertainment sector. The increase in the number of television channels available to South African viewers has resulted in an increased demand for local programming, due to local-content quotas. In South Africa, locally produced television productions are extremely popular with viewers.

South African broadcasters are exploring opportunities to distribute local productions in the rest of Africa through direct sales and a form of bartering, where content is exchanged for advertising airtime. This is expected to increase the demand for locally produced television content.

The three largest film distributors in South Africa are Ster-Kinekor, United International Pictures and

Nu-Metro. Ster-Kinekor has a specialised art circuit called Cinema Nouveau with theatres in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria.

Film festivals include the Sithengi Film and Video Festival and Market in Cape Town; the Durban Film Festival; the North West Film Festival; the Apollo Film Festival in Victoria West; the Three Continents Film Festival (specialising in African, South American and Asian films); the Soweto Film Festival, established in 2004; and the Encounters Documentary Festival, which alternates between Cape Town and Johannesburg.

### Film and Publication Board

The Films and Publications Act, 1996 (Act 65 of 1996), as amended by the Films and Publications Amendment Act, 1999 (Act 34 of 1999), provides for the regulation of films and publications intended for distribution and/or exhibition in South Africa.

The Act recognises the right of all South Africans to freely choose what they wish to watch or read. It encroaches on constitutional rights and freedom only where there is a risk of harm. The Act allows for the invasion of privacy only where child pornography is concerned. The implementation of the Act has been entrusted to the Film and Publication Board, which consists of members appointed through a process of public nominations.

The Film and Publication Board no longer censors, but instead classifies movies for age appropriateness. Its main focus is to protect children from harmful and disturbing material, while allowing

adults to make informed decisions about what they do and do not want to watch, or allow their children to watch or not to watch. There is no pre-classification of magazines. Publications are classified only when a valid complaint about a certain publication is lodged with the board.

In terms of legislation, the board may ban the distribution of visual material containing:

- sexual acts involving persons under the age of 18 years or who appear to be under the age of 18 years
- bestiality
- explicit violent acts that promote violence
- material that promotes religious hatred
- explicit violent acts coupled with sexual conduct.

Although such material, classified as XX, is only banned from distribution, the possession of child pornography is a criminal offence. People found guilty of possessing child pornography face up to five years in prison for each item found. The Act has been amended to include the regulation and control of child pornography on the Internet, and a more precise definition of what constitutes child pornography. The Act also provides for the regulation of trade in previously banned, sexually explicit material. Adult shops that do not comply with the pro-visions of the Act may be closed for up to a year.

The Films and Publications Amendment Act, 2004 (Act 18 of 2004), provides for the prohibition of child pornography and for more effective investigation and prosecution of child pornography offenders.

The Act also seeks to:

- amend the definition of child pornography, as the current definition is limited to images and the display of genitals
- bring Internet service-providers within its jurisdiction insofar as child pornography is concerned
- impose an obligation on persons who have material which is potentially disturbing and harmful to children, to take reasonable steps to prevent access to such material by children
- increase the maximum prison sentence for offences involving child pornography from five to 10 years.



The National Conference Against Child Pornography under the guiding theme *United Against Child Pornography*, was held in June 2005 at Coega Conference Centre, Eastern Cape.

The 300 delegates attending the conference adopted a declaration and committed all organs of civil society, government and the private sector to take radical steps to combat the scourge of child pornography in all its manifestations.

During 2003/04, the board classified 3 424 films and interactive computer games. As part of its efforts to protect children from being used in child pornography, the board has established a hotline for members of the public to report child pornography.

Compliance inspectors have been appointed in the major cities to monitor distributors on site to ensure that films are distributed in compliance with the provisions of the Act.

Inspectors have been appointed in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban and Johannesburg. This will be extended to other areas in the country during the next financial year. The board is funded by an annual transfer: R6,8 million in 2005/06; R7,2 million in 2006/07; and R7,7 million in 2007/08.

## Museums

Museums are the windows to the natural and cultural heritage of a country. South Africa can justifiably be called the museum country of Africa, with the earliest of its museums dating back to the first half of the 19th century.

Today, more than 300 of the approximately 1 000 museums in Africa are situated in South Africa. They range from museums of geology, history, the biological sciences and the arts, to mining, agriculture, forestry and many other disciplines.

Most of the country's national museums are declared cultural institutions (national museums that have framework autonomy and are managed by their own councils), and fall under the overall jurisdiction of the Department of Arts and Culture. They receive an annual subsidy from the department, but are otherwise autonomous.

In terms of the Cultural Institutions Act, 1998 (Act 119 of 1998), the declared museum institutions in Gauteng and Cape Town have been grouped together into two new organisations, known as flagship institutions. While the components of these two museum flagships (the museums from which they have been constituted) continue to operate as semi-independent museums regarding their core functions (collection, preservation, research and education), other functions, particularly administration,

financing and human resource management, have been centralised.

The following museums report to the Minister of Arts and Culture in terms of the Act:

- Northern Flagship Institution, Pretoria
- Iziko museums, Cape Town
- Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg
- National Museum, Bloemfontein
- Afrikaanse Taalmuseum, Paarl
- National English Literary Museum, Grahamstown
- Voortrekker Museum, Pietermaritzburg
- War Museum of the Boer Republics, Bloemfontein
- Robben Island Museum, Cape Town
- William Humphreys Art Gallery, Kimberley
- Engelenburg House Art Collection, Pretoria
- Nelson Mandela Museum, Umtata.

The Northern Flagship consists of the National Cultural History Museum (NCHM) and its former satellite museums (Kruger House, Tswaing Crater Museum, Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum, Pioneer Museum, Sammy Marks Museum and the Coert Steynberg Museum), the Transvaal Museum of Natural History in Pretoria, and the South African



In February 2005, *U-Carmen eKhayelitsha*, the acclaimed version of Bizet's opera, *Carmen*, set in the context of Cape Town's Khayelitsha township, won the prestigious Golden Bear Award at the 55th Berlin Film Festival in Germany.

The South African film *Yesterday* was nominated for an Academy Award in the category Best Foreign Film in 2005. *Yesterday* was funded by various South African bodies, including the National Film and Video Foundation.

*Hotel Rwanda*, a co-production partnership involving South Africa, Italy and the United Kingdom, was also nominated for an Oscar award.

Cecelia Bobak was nominated for an Oscar for set-design for the film *Phantom of the Opera*.

Later in 2005, *Tsotsi*, directed by Gavin Woods, won the Standard Life Award and the Michael Powel Award for Best Film at the Edinburgh Festival and the People's Choice Award at the Toronto Film Festival, respectively. It is South Africa's official submission for the 2006 Academy Awards for Best Foreign Film.

National Museum of Military History in Johannesburg.

The Southern Flagship (renamed Iziko museums of Cape Town) consists of the South African Museum, South African Cultural History Museum and its satellite museums, the South African National Gallery, the William Fehr Collection and the Michaelis Collection.

In terms of the Cultural Institutions Act, 1998, the declared museums in other provinces continue to operate as before. These include the National Museum and the Anglo-Boer War Museum (Bloemfontein); the William Humphreys Art Gallery (Kimberley); the Natal Museum and the Voortrekker Museum (Pietermaritzburg); and the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity in Grahamstown.

The Act also provides for the National Museums Division, comprising the flagship museums and other declared museums.

The Robben Island Museum was established as a national monument and museum, and declared South Africa's first World Heritage Site in 1999. Guided tours are offered to historical sites on the island, including the cell in which former President Mandela was imprisoned. The Robben Island Museum has its own council and is a separate declared institution, independent of Iziko.

Apart from the declared museums that fall under the department, there are also a number of other national museums, which are administered by central government departments or research councils. Notable examples are the Museum of the Council for Geoscience (Pretoria); the Theiler Veterinary Science Museum at Onderstepoort (Pretoria); the South African Air Force Museum at Air Force Base Zwartkop (Pretoria) with its satellites in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Durban; the Museum of the Department of Correctional Services (Pretoria); and the Porcinarium (the world's first pig museum) outside Pretoria on the Irene Campus of the Agricultural Research Council.

A number of museums fall directly or indirectly under the provincial government departments responsible for arts and culture. In some provinces, these museums render museum-support services at provincial level, while other provinces, notably

Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape and the Free State, have separate museum-service organisations.

However, many museum and heritage services are also rendered by the declared national museums on a consultancy basis. Many municipalities also manage museums. Other museums fall under universities and university departments, or are owned and managed by private-sector companies, NGOs and individuals.

The largest museums are situated in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town, Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Bloemfontein. The best-known natural history collections in South Africa are housed in the Iziko museums and the Northern Flagship Institution, as well as in the following:

- Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg
- National Museum, Bloemfontein
- McGregor Museum, Kimberley
- East London Museum
- South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity, Grahamstown
- Port Elizabeth Museum
- Durban Museum of Natural History.

The best-known cultural-history collections are housed in the Iziko museums and the Northern Flagship Institution, as well as in the following:

- National Museum, Bloemfontein
- Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg
- Durban Local History Museum
- Museum Africa, Johannesburg.

Among the art museums are the following:

- South African National Gallery, Cape Town
- Johannesburg Art Gallery
- Pretoria Art Museum
- William Humphreys Art Gallery, Kimberley.

The South African Cultural History Museum in Cape Town houses the oldest cultural history collection in the country.

The South African Museum (Cape Town) showcases the natural history of South Africa, as well as relics of the early human inhabitants of the subcontinent. The huge Whale Hall houses possibly the most impressive of all its exhibitions. This is the only collection in South Africa with a planetarium attached to it.

The Transvaal Museum in Pretoria houses the skull of Mr Ples (until recently believed to be Mrs Ples), a 2,5-million-year-old hominid fossil, and depicts the origin and development of life in South Africa, from the most primitive unicellular form of life to the emergence of mammals and the first human beings. It has a collection of early human fossils.

The Tswaing Meteorite Crater is situated to the north-west of Pretoria. It supports the Presidential imperatives by combining a museum with a cultural-development initiative.

The NCHM (former African Window) in Pretoria is a centre for the preservation and promotion of the culture and heritage of all South Africans. It explores cultural diversity and commonalities, links the present and the past to offer a better understanding of both, and nurtures the living culture of all South Africans.

Mining is best represented by the De Beers Museum at the Big Hole in Kimberley, where visitors can view the biggest hole ever made by man with pick and shovel. It includes an open-air museum, which houses many buildings dating back to the era of the diamond diggings.

Another important mining museum is at Pilgrim's Rest, Mpumalanga, where the first economically viable goldfield was discovered. The entire village has been conserved and restored.

Agriculture in South Africa is depicted mainly at two museums. These are Kleinplasia in Worcester, Western Cape, which showcases the wine culture and the characteristic architecture of the winelands; and the Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum between Pretoria and Bronkhorstspuit in Gauteng. This museum comprises two 'house' museums, and runs educational programmes based on their extensive collection of early farming implements, vehicles of yesteryear, and indigenous farm animals.

The Absa Museum and Archives in Johannesburg, which belongs to Amalgamated Banks of South Africa (Absa), aims to preserve the banking group's more than 110 years of history. It also houses a unique and very valuable coin and banknote collection.

The Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg offers a realistic view of the political situation in South Africa

during the 1970s and 1980s. Exhibitions in the museum feature, among other things, audio-visual footage recorded during the apartheid era.

One of the most common types of museum in South Africa is the 'house' museum. Examples include an entire village nucleus in Stellenbosch; an example of the lifestyle of the wealthy wine farmer in Groot Constantia in the Western Cape; the mansion of the millionaire industrialist Sammy Marks, outside Pretoria; the Victorian affluence mirrored in Melrose House, Pretoria; and the Kruger House Museum in Pretoria, former residence of President Paul Kruger.

Simpler architectural variations have not been neglected, for instance the pioneer-dwelling in Silverton, Pretoria, and the humble farmhouse at Suikerbosrand near Heidelberg in Gauteng. There are several open-air museums, which showcase the black cultures of the country, for example Tsongakraal near Letsitele, Limpopo; the Ndebele Museum in Middelburg, Mpumalanga; the Bakone Malapa Museum in Polokwane, Limpopo; and the South Sotho Museum in Witsieshoek, Free State.

South Africa has two national military history museums. The South African Museum for Military History in Johannesburg reflects the military history of the country, while the War Museum in Bloemfontein depicts the Anglo-Boer/South African War in particular. The famous battlefields of KwaZulu-Natal, the Northern Cape and North West are also worth a visit.

The work of the War-Graves Division of the SAHRA includes the upkeep of the graves of victims of the struggle for South Africa's liberation.

## Archives and heraldry

Archives of governmental bodies are transferred to archive repositories after a period of 20 years, and are accessible to the public and the office of origin. National Archives functions in terms of the National Archives and Records Service of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act 43 of 1996).

The National Archives in Pretoria includes the National Film, Video and Sound Archives (NAFVSA). Its primary functions are to obtain and preserve

films, videotapes and sound recordings of archival value, and to make these available for research and reference purposes.

The archives of central government are preserved in the National Archives' repository in Pretoria. Provincial archive repositories in Pretoria, Cape Town, Pietermaritzburg, Durban, Umtata, Port Elizabeth and Bloemfontein house archives dating from before 1910, as well as the relevant provincial archives. Record centres for archives younger than 20 years exist in Pretoria, Bloemfontein and Cape Town.

The retrieval of information from archives is facilitated by the national automated archival information system ([www.national.archives.gov.za](http://www.national.archives.gov.za)), which includes national registers of manuscripts, photographs and audio-visual material. National Archives also renders a comprehensive record-management service for current records, aimed at promoting efficient administration.

During 2004, National Archives collaborated with the South African Bureau of Standards to adopt a national standard for records management.

National Archives is responsible for collecting non-public records with enduring value of national significance. In so doing, it is obliged to pay special attention to aspects of the nation's experience neglected by archives of the past.

The Oral History Project seeks to build the National Archives' capacity to document the spoken word, and to develop a national oral history programme. The automated National Register of Oral Sources is an important element of the project.

The Act also provides government with a measure of control over private collections. Archives are taken to the people through co-ordinated national and provincial archive services. At the same time, National Archives is responsible for ensuring effective, transparent and accountable management of all public records as far as possible.

The Bureau of Heraldry is responsible for the registration of coats of arms; badges and other emblems such as flags, seals, medals and insignia of rank and offices of order; as well as the registration of names and uniforms (colours) of associations and organisations, such as universities.

## Library and Information Services (LIS) sector

South African libraries have developed over a period of more than 150 years. The world's first free public library service was established here by Lord Charles Somerset in 1820, by levying a tax on the sale of wine. When he returned to England, tax reforms by the new governor spelt the end of the free library; but it formed the basis of what is today the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) in Cape Town.

By 1900, subscription libraries were operating in most towns and cities, financed by annual membership fees and, in most cases, grants from local authorities. An investigation in the 1930s by the Carnegie Corporation of New York found that most of these libraries were inadequate and poorly funded. The necessity for government support to ensure free public libraries was recognised.

By the 1950s, all four provinces of the Union of South Africa had ordinances that set out the functions of local and provincial government, and public library development gathered momentum.

In 1985, librarians commissioned UNISA to investigate the role that libraries could and should play in developing South Africa. The result was that greater emphasis was placed on providing material that would support formal and informal education. Outreach programmes to schools and pre-schools received priority. Many libraries also started presenting literacy classes for adults.

South Africa's growing LIS sector includes a national library, public/community libraries, special libraries, government libraries and Higher Education (HE) libraries. By mid-2003, South Africa had more than 11 373 libraries, with 77 HE libraries, 9 416 school libraries, 79 government departmental libraries, one national library with two branches, and 1 800 public libraries provided by provincial and local government (library services and metro libraries). Less than 10% of secondary schools had school libraries.

### Provincial library services

The nine provincial library authorities provide, in

partnership with local governments, extensive public library services. Public libraries, among other services, increasingly render community and general information services, and provide study material and facilities for school and tertiary students.

The approximately 1 800 public libraries in the country have to provide services to a total population of about 44,8 million. According to Census 2001 figures, this translates into one library service point for every 25 000 people.

## Library services at national level

### Meta-information

The Subdirectorate: Meta-Information of the Department of Arts and Culture is the national focal point within national government that handles certain policy matters pertaining to LIS at national level. Meta-information means information about information.

The subdirectorate is located within the National Archives, Records, Meta-Information, and Heraldic Services Chief Directorate of the Department of Arts and Culture and reports to the National Archivist.

The vision of the subdirectorate is to create and maintain an effective meta-information system that promotes access to information, ensuring that all communities participate in the information society, thereby contributing to the development of the country.

Its mission is to advise the Minister of Arts and Culture on the development, co-ordination and maintenance of the national meta-information policy and infrastructure.

The national meta-information system in South Africa consists of various types of libraries and other information organisations and is enabled by a legislative framework. The subdirectorate's remit, within this framework, pertains specifically to:

- the National Council for Library and Information Services (NCLIS)
- the NLSA
- the South African Library for the Blind (Blindlib)
- the Legal Deposit Committee and those libraries and archives that function as places of legal deposit and/or official publication depositories

- Blind SA (formerly the South African Blind Workers' Organisation) and the Braille Services Trust, as well as the South African National Council for the Blind regarding Braille projects.

## National Council for Library and Information Services

The NCLIS was established in terms of the NCLIS Act, 2001 (Act 6 of 2001) (Annexure A). The NCLIS advises the ministers of arts and culture and of education on matters relating to LIS in order to support and stimulate the socio-economic, educational, cultural, recreational, scientific research, technological and information development of all communities in the country. The functions of the council are to develop and co-ordinate LIS in the country.

## National Library of South Africa

The NLSA was formed on 1 November 1999 through the NLSA Act, 1998 (Act 92 of 1998), with the amalgamation of the State Library in Pretoria and the South African Library in Cape Town.

The functions of the NLSA are to build a complete collection of published documents emanating from or relating to South Africa, to maintain and preserve the collections and to provide access to them through bibliographic, reference, information and interlibrary-lending services; and to promote information awareness and information literacy. The Centre for the Book in Cape Town, a specialised unit, promotes the culture of reading, writing and publishing in all South Africa's official languages.

In terms of the Legal Deposit Act, 1997 (Act 54 of 1997), the NLSA, as one of five legal deposit libraries, receives two copies of each book, periodical, newspaper, map, manuscript material or other publication that is published in South Africa in any medium, print or electronic, for its campuses in Pretoria and Cape Town.

## South African Library for the Blind

Blindlib is a statutory organisation located in Grahamstown. Its object is to provide, free of charge as far as is reasonably possible, a national LIS to serve blind and print-handicapped readers in South



Africa. It is partly state-funded and depends for the remainder of its financial needs on soliciting funds from the private sector and the general public.

Blindlib also produces documents in special media such as Braille and audio formats. It develops standards for the production of such documents and researches production methods and technology in the appropriate fields. It also acquires, manufactures and disseminates the technology needed by people with print disabilities to read.

The vision of Blindlib is based on five broad objectives, namely to significantly contribute to:

- helping build a nation of readers
- assisting the organised blind community
- improving the lives of individuals with print disabilities by meeting their information needs
- helping the State to discharge its cultural mandate and its obligations to blind people
- Africa's development by providing advice, expertise and documents in accessible formats for blind persons and the institutions that serve their information needs.



The Department of Arts and Culture is erecting a R160-million building to house the National Library of South Africa in Pretoria. The project will be executed by the Department of Public Works.

There will be about 33 000 usable square metres of space for its book collections, reading rooms and other facilities currently scattered in various premises around Pretoria.

The building will provide about 1 800 seats for library users, a marked improvement on the 130 seats available now.

The site will become part of the Government Boulevard, linking the city centre with the Union Buildings. Its central location will benefit the many users who rely on public transport.

## Blind SA

Blind SA is an organisation of the blind governed by the blind and is located in Johannesburg. One of its prime objectives is to provide services for blind and partially sighted individuals to uplift and empower them by publishing books, magazines and other documents in Braille. Blind SA provides:

- study bursaries for blind and partially-sighted students
- interest-free loans (for adaptive equipment)
- information (free Braille magazines)
- assistance to find sustainable employment
- advocacy (to act as a pressure group for disability rights)
- Braille publications at affordable prices in all official languages.

Braille is the only accessible format of reading for a blind person. The Braille Services Department of Blind SA produced 2,8 million pages during 2004 and subsidies exceeded R1 million.

## Legal Deposit Act, 1997

The purpose of the Legal Deposit Act, 1997 is to:

- provide for the preservation of the national documentary heritage through legal deposit of published documents
- ensure the preservation and cataloguing of, and access to, published documents emanating from, or adapted for, South Africa
- provide for access to government information
- provide for a legal deposit committee
- provide for matters connected with it.

The places of legal deposit are: NLSA, Pretoria Campus; NLSA, Cape Town component; Mangaung Library Services; Msunduzi Municipal Library; Library of Parliament; and NAFVSA.

(See chapter 8: *Education*.)

## Acknowledgements

*BuaNews*

Department of Arts and Culture

Department of Home Affairs

*Estimates of National Expenditure 2005*, published by the National Treasury

Film and Publication Board

National Cultural History Museum

*Sunday Times*

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