World Music Lecture-Performance:
Black Umfolosi

October 18, 2022
Rock Hall Auditorium

TPAC
7:30 PM

Program

Coming Your Way
This is a salutation song expressing the group’s desire to reach out to every corner of the world and share joy. It further strengthens the Umfolosi members to continue tirelessly and protect the legacy.

Ingoma Yakwethu
This song is a celebration of the Imbube Music tradition, and that Black Umfolosi took it to another level in Southern Africa and the world, starting in humble beginnings in a school setup and bringing the tradition to national and international levels.

Sinqobile
This song is about a run-away bride, Sinqobile, a Ndebele name for a lady, equivalent to Victoria. Sinqobile has, at the last minute, decided to run away at the moment and time of matrimonial process. The intended husband is on his knees begging her to come back and continue with the process. Persuaded enough, she finally came around.

Washabalal’ Umhlaba
This is a song of concern about climate change and experiencing of floods, droughts, hurricanes, and cyclones. The song is inspired by Sustainable Development Goal 13 on climate change, where we are all advised to take extra care of Mother Earth.

Busis’ Abazali
From the children’s perspective, the Children are thanking their parents and praying for them to be blessed for raising them up to be who they are today.

Little Psalm
This is a poem by a greatest Canadian Poet and song writer, Mr. Bob Jensen from Charlotte Town PE, who is a touring agent for Black Umfolosi. Black Umfolosi concerted it to a song, “Little Psalm.”
Shosholoza
This is a traditional song describing the sound and movement made by the steam train as it moves through the mountains and valleys of Southern Africa in a spectacular way, shuttling the economy and people between one place and another.

Isemafini
This is a gospel song based on Christianity and explaining that the physical body is purposed to perfect the Spiritual body.

Isivivinyo
This song talks about a long distance relationship that suffers a lot and strains that spark of love; however, the digital world of today should be easing that gap as there are advanced platforms of communication such as Instagram, Facebook, video calls, as compared to the time of smoke signal, letter posting, etc.

Inkomo
Inkomo means cows. The song is about lobola, a cultural practice in most African countries where by when a couple is ready for marriage, the groom’s family rewards the bride’s family with cows as a sign of respect, love and true union of two families. The song is for inspiring young people to carry on with this culture as it helps us keep our identity and values.

Imbube
Imbube is the King, our music used to be for the Kings and Queens of Southern Africa. It is called “Umculo we Mbube” meaning Music of the King. This is a song originally written by late Solomon Linda (South African) known throughout the world today as “The Lion Sleeps Tonight.” The king is referred to as a Lion (Imbube), hence the message, “in the jungle.”

Gumboot Dance Rhythms and Routines
Gumboot rhythms, created by Black Umfolosi, are based on the original Gumboot dance by the miners in the late 1950s. It all began as a secret language between immigrant workers from all over our region who were not allowed to talk or communicate with one another underground while digging gold. It is a spectacular dance with various rhythmic patterns.

Helele Mama
“Helele Mama” is a prayer for mother Africa to provide enough and sufficient to her children.
About the Artists

**THOMEKI DUBE**, born in July 1964, is a co-founder of Black Umfolosi and does all administrative duties of the company. He writes songs, performs, and does tour managing for all trips in and outside Zimbabwe. He is a hard worker, fine-tuned seasoned artist and a great choreographer. Off the stage, he is a God fearing born-again Christian who is a father of six. On this 2022 tour he sings tenor.

Born in November of 1995, **SANDI DUBE** is a fine tuned alto and soprano singer and great dancer. To her, arts are natural, as she was born from a family of artists. She is a brilliant, intelligent, graduate in Social Science and has worked for advocacy firms and consultancy firms in Zimbabwe. This is her first experience in the West; however, she studied Chinese language in China before finishing her degree.

Born in 1965, **SOTSHA MOYO** is a co-founding member of the group and a hard working person. Moyo is a trainer, song writer, choreographer and lead singer for the Group. Outside his music career, he is a born-again Christian and a father of five. He is also a drummer and does solo instrumental recordings outside Black Umfolosi. He also speaks about six Southern African languages.

**LUZIBO T. MOYO** is a multi talented fine tuned artist who sings alto and is also a great visual artist. Born in March 1997, she grew up in a family of artists. To her, art is in her blood streams. She did balae as a kid and later started visual arts. Moyo has recorded her own songs in styles other than a capella.

Born in the oldest township of Bulawayo known as Makokoba, **AUSTIN CHISARE** became a natural artist with great interest in playing both bass and lead guitars as well as keyboards. Born in June 1963, Chisare has played for many local musicians in Zimbabwe and has been involved in hundreds of recordings over the years. He later joined Black Umfolosi and has since advanced his artistic ability. He has been with Black Umfolosi for about 20 years now.