



OTHER VILLAGE PEOPLE NOV 18-20

NIGHT EMBASSY JHB AMBASSADORS ARE EXPLORING NEW DIRECTIONS IN NIGHTLIFE CULTURE AT THEIR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER RESIDENCIES

QUEERTOPIA BY OTHER VILLAGE PEOPLE TO FEATURE MOONCHILD SANELLY, DBN GOGO, NONKU PHIRI, BUHLEBENDALO AND MORE ON 18 - 20 NOVEMBER AT CONSTITUTION HILL, BRAAMFONTEIN.

Night Embassy Johannesburg by Jägermeister is a residency programme centred around 'Freiraum', a space for unbridled self-expression and unlimited creativity. From 12th November to 4th December, the Night Embassy Ambassadors Unmuted., Other Village People, Kombonation and DormantYouth will be exploring new directions in nightlife culture through curated events in Joburg. These Night Embassy Ambassadors will take over some of the iconic locations in the city to make their boldest nightlife visions come to life. On 11th December 2021, following the residency weeks, Night Embassy will close out with a big underground party in Johannesburg.

Other Village People, made up of event producer and DJ Andiswa Dlamini (AN.D) as well as cultural worker and curator Kefiloe Siwisa, present Queertopia at Constitution Hill in Braamfontein from 18th to 20th of November. Their three-day lineup includes DBN Gogo, Moonchild Sanelly, Nonku Phiri and Buhlebendalo, amongst others.

About the event Dlamini says, "Queertopia is a reimagining of a country, a new world order that normalises and celebrates our differences as if it's always been that way." Siwisa adds, "The people are the centre of Queertopia. Imagine what the world would feel like if it were designed by and for queer communities?"

Tickets & Info available [Here](#)



Since 2016, Other Village People have been creating experiences for, "LGBTQIA+ communities to feel liberated, to live in the truest reflection of self, to connect, to celebrate and find their tribe," says Dlamini.

Other Village People has two queer-focussed platforms; SSS (Same Sex Saturday), a party space that runs in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban as well as Grounded, an intimate series of alternative experiences from hikes to dinners and everything in between.

Other Village People was created because in South Africa, "There is a lack of safer spaces that prioritise LGBTQIA+ communities and within the prevailing heteronormative constructs, LGBTQIA+ are often faced with discrimination, micro aggressions and even hate crimes," Siwisa explains.

Already shifting creative spaces in the city through their projects and communities, the four Ambassadors of the Night have received a major boost to their practices as well as financial support for Night Embassy Johannesburg. They are recipients of mentorship from the Night Embassy Creative Board, as well as the production and infrastructural support needed to enable them to create fresh new directions in Joburg's nightlife.

So at Queertopia you can expect, "A three-day queer experience where the LGBTQIA+ community is prioritised and all allies are welcomed." says Dlamini, who breaks down the three days at Constitution Hill.

"We think the impact here lies in the experience," says Dlamini. "The fact that the LGBTQIA+ community will collectively have a space to just be for three consecutive days, this says a lot about what still lacks in nightlife and why this will be impactful", Dlamini continues.



OTHER VILLAGE PEOPLE

NIGHT
EMBASSY
JOHANNESBURG

THE OTHER VILLAGE PEOPLE RESIDENCY WILL UNFOLD OVER A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS:

DAY 1 – THE HOUSE OF NEW ORDER

A cocktail evening which will hold space for the opening ceremony of Queertopia centered around a flag raising ceremony. Day 1 will also introduce people to the House of Remembrance, an immersive exhibition of Queer nightlife in SA.

On decks: Congo Muffin, Rosie Parade, Thanda Kunene

[Full Info here](#)

DAY 2 - THE HOUSE OF SPIRITS

An intimate space for connection and affirmation through live music and experimental sound offerings, a place where people can share their lived experiences.

Performances: Nonku Phiri, Buhlebendalo, Muneyi

[Full Info here](#)

DAY 3 - THE HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Where the community will gather; a playground for celebration and true expression, to be, dance and move as you please, this is essentially the closing party of the residency.

Performance: Moonchild Sanelly, Thandi Draai

On decks: DBN Gogo, Kat Upendi, Lotion, Sjay, Phatstoki

[Full Info here](#)



ATTEND ALL FOUR RESIDENCIES, FULL DETAILS.

Night Embassy residencies from 12th November until 4th December. Get your ticket by logging onto Webtickets. Stay updated by logging onto www.night-embassy.com/jhb, or follow [@nightembassyjhb](https://www.instagram.com/nightembassyjhb) on Instagram.

UNMUTED.: UNMUTE THE CITY

Dates: 12th – 14th November 2021

Venue: Carfax,

39 Gwigwi Mrwebi St, Newtown, Johannesburg, 2113

Tickets: R100 per day, R250 for a 3 day pass.

OTHER VILLAGE PEOPLE: QUEERTOPIA

Dates: 18th – 20th November 2021

Venue: Constitution Hill,

11 Kotze St, Braamfontein, Johannesburg, 2001

Tickets: R100 per day, R250 for a 3 day pass.

Info & Ticket Link: [Queertopia](#): The House of ...

KOMBONATION: KAOFELA KAOFELA

Dates: 26th – 28th November 2021

Venue: White House,

Msimanga St, Meadowlands East Zone 5, Meadowlands East, Soweto, 1852

Tickets: R50 per day, R150 for a 3 day pass.

DORMANTYOUTH: GROOVE BIENNALE

Dates: 1st – 4th December 2021

Venue: Megalo, Alexandra

57 4th St, Marlboro, Sandton, 2063

Tickets: R100 per day, R250 for a 3 day pass.



SPEAKING JÄGERMEISTER SOUTH AFRICA'S CULTURE AND EXPERIENTIAL MARKETING MANAGER BEA THERON SAYS.

Each residency will be tailored to the experience of its participants. With educational lectures, hands-on workshops and expert guidance to help cultivate their career in music, the arts, and events onwards, the programme aims to equip each Ambassador with the inspiration, technical know-how and practical support to transform their creative practice and progress Johannesburg's nightlife. Under the curatorial direction of each Ambassador, Night Embassy will also be a public showcase of their work, putting them in charge of a day-to-night programme with collaborators and mediums of their choice.

The Ambassadors have been given a blank canvas to explore their chosen topics and concepts with the support of the Night Embassy Creative Board, made up of five renowned figures known for their contributions to South Africa's arts, events and music culture. Board members include veteran event producer, business strategist and venue owner Theresho Selesho; designer, artist and creative director extraordinaire Jana Hamman; LGBTQI pioneer, DJ and content creator Lelowhatsgood; skate scene champion and filmmaker Day Marumo and amapiano centred talent management agency owner Thuli Keupzz.

The Creative Board selected the following as Night Embassy Ambassadors:

**MEET OUR
AMBASADORS
OF THE NIGHT!**



UNMUTED. BY LINCOLN LONG & DRAPER

Lincoln Long (he/him) and **Draper** (he/him) believe **Unmuted.** is the missing key to levelling the music playing field. Their mantra “Life Is Best Lived Unmuted” speaks to the idea that we’re all muted or unheard to someone and it’s only when we live life unmuted can we give opportunities to the unknown. What started in 2017 as Unmuted. Records, has become a hybrid independent label behind the production of chart storming songs by emerging artists, has now morphed into a network of future-thinking entities including a live/events/tour management and bookings division Unmuted. Live. Unmuted. also have a film and TV division, an online radio station and a clothing brand.

The experience of being Night Embassy Ambassadors has already had a major impact on Unmuted. “This has been an absolute dream. Through this experience we have been exposed to so much that we didn’t know and at the same time we’ve been made to feel and be more confident in what we do know. Besides the obvious financial injection, being an ambassador has and is providing us with new ways of thinking and working that we would not have been exposed to”, they share.



OTHER VILLAGE PEOPLE BY ANDISWA DLAMINI & KEFILOE SIWISA

Other Village People (OVP) by **Andiswa Dlamini** (she/her) and **Kefiloe Siwisa** (she/her) creates experiences for LGBTQIA+ communities to feel liberated, to live in the truest reflection of self, to connect, to celebrate and find their tribe. Founded in 2016, Other Village People has two queer-focused platforms; SSS (Same Sex Saturday), a party space that runs in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban, and Grounded, an intimate series of alternative experiences from hikes to dinners and everything in between.

Other Village People note that in SA cities, "There is a lack of safer spaces that prioritise LGBTQIA+ communities and within the prevailing heteronormative constructs, LGBTQIA+ are often faced with discrimination, micro aggressions and even hate crimes. Our concept is about creating queer-centered spaces that normalise and celebrate our differences as if it's always been that way."



KOMBONATION BY KANANELO KABELO SELLO & KGOTSO SELOMAH

Market Photography Workshop graduates **Kananelo Kabelo Sello** (he/him) and **Kgotso Selomah** (she/her, They/Them) founded **Kombonation** in 2018. Kombonation is a Soweto-based pre-to-post production start-up, specialising in real and raw visual storytelling. They also create clothing that showcases their photographic skillset, and expresses the narratives that exist within and beyond the photographs.

Kombonation's mantra is, 'Together, we do the most. Kaofela Kaofela. One love.' "Our art is by the kasi, for the kasi, and beyond", says Kombonation. Night Embassy has given them, "an opportunity for us to create an alternative kasi nightlife experience on a bigger scale. By being Ambassadors of the Night, we get to drive home what's really important to us - visual literacy."



DORMANTYOUTH AKA **W** HELMA NDEBELE

DormantYouth AKA **Thelma Ndebele** is a non-binary (They/Them) DJ and Master of Architecture (GSA, UJ) whose interest lies in music as an alternative translation of place, as well as an archive of lived space. Their research and observations made at the GSA have culminated in them regarding music as a metric of place, specifically in clubs and event venues that host (sub)cultures that can be identified by the music produced and consumed by said social groups.

Speaking about their ideas, Thelma explains: "I want to build architectural structures specifically catering to Joburg nightlife. I want to add interesting physical installations into the club space as an additional layer to the excitement of going out. I think this residency will show an alternative perspective of architecture beyond its technical and formal predisposition. You can expect an installation fit for music, performance and film, nested in an unexpected context".

These four Ambassadors promise to make their mark through curating memorable experiences this November; they are hoping to change the very fabric of the city nightlife landscape.



THERESHO SELESHO

Thresho Selesho is a dynamic creative entrepreneur at the intersection of culture and business. He's the CEO of Matchbox Live, the company behind major events like Black Coffee's Music King and Oppikoppi. He is a partner in the Tshwanefontein event series and the Trancemicsoul Sessions and co-owner of the African Beer Emporium. Thresho also heads up the commercial division at artist Nelson Makamo's Botho Project Space.

JANA HAMMAN

One half of the award-winning conceptual design and art direction studio Jana and Koos, designer, creative director and artist Jana Hamman has worked on Nike and Simon + Mary campaigns as well as on Alice & Fifth Restaurant and The Mighty Fine and Gorgeous George's hotels. The co-owner of fashion label Beau Beau's art has shown in London, Joburg, Berlin and Sydney.

LELOWHATSGOOD

Lelowhatsgood is the DJ, digital marketer and content creator behind groundbreaking ballroom party and queer safe space Vogue Nights Jozi. As a writer, his byline has appeared in many publications including The New York Times. Colourful and vibrant are adjectives that best suit this creative voice from the LGBTQI community. Lelowhatsgood embodies the freedom that comes with being proud of being one's true self.

DAY MARUMO

Sharpeville's Day Marumo owns a Skate Company called Perfect Weather Skate and has a non-profit called the Perfect Weather Skate Foundation which hosts skate workshops, clinics and competitions for township kids. As a content creator and filmmaker he has worked on projects featuring Pharrell Williams, Black Coffee and Moonchild Sanelly amongst others. Day Marumo's tale is one of aspirational passion leading one to be an unexpected figurehead within the ever expanding South African skateboarding culture.

THULI KEUPZZ

Thuli Keupzz is Founder and Managing Director of amapiano centred bookings and talent management agency Lawk Communications. She is the marshal and custodian of some of amapiano music's biggest names, she is Maphorisa's manager and discovered Kabza De Small amongst many others of the 22 acts on her roster. Thuli has also been instrumental in spreading amapiano's popularity to East Africa. Thuli's distinct understanding of amapiano gives a depth of knowledge bar none within the industry as an artist manager who is actively in the party scene.