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Top South African and Pan-African Designers to Celebrate Africa Month with #WeAreAfrica Fashion Spectaculars

Top South African fashion designers will join their Pan-African counterparts for two provincial #WeAreAfrica Fashion Spectaculars to be hosted respectively in Nelspruit on 16 May and Durban on 23 May by the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) in celebration of Africa Month.

The month-long “We Are Africa” celebration programme includes a strong fashion component in recognition of the powerful South African fashion culture that has developed over the past twenty-one years.

“The two #WeAreAfrica Fashion Spectaculars, respectively in Nelspruit and Durban, produced by South African Fashion Week, will allow us to open a dialogue amongst like-minded creatives from across the continent by showcasing some of the most exciting local and Pan-African designs alongside each other in both ramp shows and exhibitions featuring an extensive range of other fashion-related design such as jewellery, millinery, footwear and handbags as well as craft and textiles.” says Lindi Ndebele-Koka Acting Chief Director: Cultural Development responsible for the Africa Month Cultural Program.

The runway shows will include designers Fikirte Addis of Yefiker of Ethiopia, lamSIGO of Nigeria and Esnoko by Chiza Ngulube of Zambia alongside the current collections of top womenswear signatures such as Sun Goddess, Rubicon, Gert-Johan Coetzee and Lunar as well as menswear designers such Ephraim Molingwane of Ephymol, Olé Ledimo of House of Ole, Shaldon Kopman of Naked Ape and Paledi Segapo of Palse Homme.

“As part of SAFW’s developmental objective the shows will include emerging designers from each of the two provinces so that they may benefit from this opportunity to shine a spotlight on their work.” says producer Lucilla Booyzen of South African Fashion Week.

The fashion platform for Africa Month will serve as a tool to promote peace, friendship and integration within the continent and hopefully it will become a launch pad for many of the country’s greatest fashion success stories.

Africa Month was launched by Minister of Arts & Culture, Mr Nathi Mthethwa on 1 April 2015 at Freedom Park, Pretoria.

“We will use this period to promote African identity, entrench African values and ethics as well as strengthen existing collaborations in the continent. We believe our programme will contribute to the attainment of the African Union’s vision 2063 which strives for an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena,” said Minister Mthethwa.

The provincial show line-ups are: Nelspruit #WeAreAfrica Fashion Spectacular Designer Line-up

Ladieswear

SunGoddess | Johannesburg

Rubicon |Johannesburg

The Aciara by Farah | Nelspruit

Angelique by Nomsa Mazibuko | Nelspruit

Yefikir | Ethiopia

IamSIGO | Nigeria

Lunar | Johannesburg

Menswear

House of Olé | Johannesburg

Ephymol | Johannesburg

Naked Ape | Johannesburg

Palse Homme | Johannesburg

Bless by Nathi Shongwe | Nelspruit

Esnoko by Chiza | Zambia

Durban # WeAreAfrica Fashion Spectacular Designer Line-up

Ladieswear

Rubicon | Johannesburg

Yadah Exclusive Designs | Durban

Gert-Johan Coetzee | Johannesburg

Yefikir | Ethiopia

IamSIGO | Nigeria

Sober by Tsheto Mafokwane | Johannesburg

8th Wanda by Nokwanda Ngcobo | Johannesburg

Menswear

Amanda Laird Cherry | Durban

Naked Ape | Johannesburg

Charthu by Mike Narainsamy | Johannesburg

Esnoko by Chiza | Zambia

Hombré by Vanessa Pillay | Durban

Duke Clothe Your Soul by Sandile Duke Mngadi | Durban

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