

BONGI NDABA

Writer, Actor, Director, Producer

Agent: Contractors

Tel: 011 7266076

Bongi Ndaba is a South African born and bred writer, director and producer who started in theatre as a child in 1993, then moved to write for television in 2003 at one of the top SA soapies Generations, which she ended up be a headwriter for in 2011. She raised their viewership by 3 million, breaking its own record. She did the same when she was head writer for Uzalo, the show broke its own AR record when it hit 10.2 million viewers in 2018. And she revived a dying show called Isidingo which saw a growth of more than a million viewers saving it from being canned by a channel. The following is her other TV writing portfolio.

TV WORK: Written for most SABC dramas - Mzansi 2, award winning Gaz'lam, Muvhango and Society II. Also worked on Jozi H (Canadian / South African co-production) as a Junior Story Editor and writer. Then she wrote Sokhulu and Partners, a series for SABC 1, which won seven SAFTAS for 2009 and also nominated for IEMMY in 2009. Her theatre play that was premiered at The Market Theatre turned into a television series, Shreds and Dreams, developed under the mentorship of Zakes Mda, was commissioned by SABC 1. Part of the team that created Ashes to Ashes, a telenovela for ETV. Also Story Editor on Ashes. Also wrote on Zibondiwe, a drama for ETV. Also was Story Team Leader for series 3 of Sokhulu and Partners.

She was nominated for a SAFTA 2009, Best Supporting Role as Thembeke in a Shakespeare adaptation of King Lear – Izingane Zobaba. Her short film 'Father Christmas Doesn't Come Around Here' was awarded the Best Narrative Short 2010, for Tribeca Film Festival in New York. Also was part of IEMMY nominated South African drama, Home Affairs.

Former Headwriter/Showrunner of a new telenovela, Ke Thaba Bosiu (which flighted as Greed and Desire), for Mzantsi Magic, Multichoice. One of the creators of Mzantsi Magic's Saints and Sinners. Former Storyliner of Season 2 Ring of Lies. Won a Royalty Soapie Award for Best Writing Team, for Ring of Lies 2. Former resident script writing lecturer at a first township film academy LimAcademy in Eesterus Pretoria and Alexander Township. Also one of the headwriters for hit-series eHostela (Season 1) for Mzantsi Magic, Multichoice.

Has written and directed her latest short movie, Miracle, which has been selected at the 50TH FESPACO in Ouagadougou in 2019. It was recently selected for the New York African Film Festival, and just won Best Shorts in Los Angeles as Woman Filmmaker, Special Mention and for Lead and supporting actress. Also selected at the Durban International Film Festival and won Best Short Film Award at the same festival.

Also selected at San Francisco Independent Shorts Festival (screened September 2019) Also selected at Around International Film Festival in Barcelona (Screening January 2020) Also selected at the Jozi Film Festival and got Special Mention for Screenplay

Also selected for AFRIFF in Nigeria, Lagos

Also selected for Shnit Worldwide Shorts Festival and lead actress in movie, Linda Sokhulu, Won Best Actress Award Also go Special Mention for Screenplay at the Shnit Worldwide Short Festival

Selected at The Mahul Woods International Film Festival in India (now known as Tagore International Film Festival)

Winner of the Inaugural IamAfrica / YouTube / PAFF filmmaker Award – Held in LA February 2020

Also screened at Pan African Film Festival in Los Angeles in February 2020 Selected at Orlando International Film Festival – To screen in September 2020

Created and produced a drama slate for MojaLove. The slate included Mangaung (a telenovela), AmaBishop (13 part drama, about fake pastors), Erased, a sex-worker drama and Phoyisa, a procedural cop drama based on true SA GBV stories. Also comedies including Housemaids, Ikhaya Labadala (currently on air), Ko Strateng and more.

Also part of the creative team of the groundbreaking Estate on S3, story lining too and writing scripts. Currently head-writing season 3 of The Estate for S3. And on development for a couple of international project.