



# White Rock Concerts *Presents*

SOWETO SINGS



*Founder*                      *Jabulani Mazibuko*  
1916 - 1997

*Director and Narrator*              *Enoch Yeni*  
*Conductor*                              *Ntombi Mbasso*

*Friday, May 2, 1997*

## SOWETO SINGS

### Sopranos:

Philda Maliwa Olive Pule  
 Nomalizo Mbele Khosi Xaba  
 Phumzile Jiyane Thoko Buthelezi  
 Mary Shiba Fanny Ngema  
 Ellen Tsotetsi Ethel Sithole  
 Barbara Monyepote

### Tenors:

Jabulani Tshabalala  
 Rodger Mgaga  
 Lungisani Sithole  
 Thami Ella

### Altos:

Ntombi Mbasso  
 Florence Motlungu  
 Sophie Sihlali  
 Nancy Kganane  
 Nkele Diamini  
 Doris Mabuza

### Basses:

Billy Matsepe  
 Jacob Masekwameng  
 Michael Radebe  
 Michael Ngcobo

### Conducted by Ntombi Mbasso

SOWETO SINGS is more than a touring Choir on a visit to a foreign country far from their homeland. It is an ensemble that has determined to prove that their township of SOWETO can now heal old wounds through great song, and need not be solely remembered in history for the violence, torture, murder and riots which accompanied the years of Apartheid. The touring Choir which is an outgrowth of the Soweto Teacher's Choir is proof that even forty years of apartheid could not kill the music.

SOWETO SINGS is unique for its mixture of tribal heritages. The Choir sings in Zulu, Xhosa, Sesotho. There are members of each tribe in the Choir, all of them singing for peace and unity among their peoples. The Choir personifies the legacies of each of these proud and ancient peoples.

All of the members of the Choir are now working in the re-vitalized Soweto school system, and as teachers they are in the forefront of taking their message to their classrooms. But through their international touring, they also spread the story of their new democracy outside of their homeland.

## - PROGRAMME -

### PART I

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Khona Ngiokhe Ngibone   | Zulu Wedding Song                     |
| <i>A traditional wedding song about a girl who is passionately jealous of the bride!</i>  |                                       |
| Oalteli-telisa  | Sotho Wedding Song                    |
| <i>This bride pretends to be crying, but she is really very happy to be married!</i>  |                                       |
| Ugwayimane  | Zulu Farming Song                     |
| <i>A Zulu farmer admires a prize bull among his splendid herd</i>   |                                       |
| Lala Bhabha   | Xhosa Lullaby                         |
| <i>A mother comforts her little one, by singing this sweet song for her to sleep.</i>   |                                       |
| Inzintombi Nezinsizwa   | Zulu song of contact with the outside |
| <i>In the old days, a young man was excited by a treat in a hotel, where he is offered a cup of tea</i>   |                                       |
| Bawo Thixo Somandla   | Xhosa traditional anti-war song       |
| <i>The tribe pleads collectively to God to make the people stop killing one another</i>   |                                       |
| Mantila-ntilane   | Southern Sotho children's song        |
| <i>This is sung by children, while playing</i>  |                                       |
| Abakwami  | Traditional Zulu                      |
| <i>A girl pleads with her parents to permit her future in-laws to enter the house and pay a dowry for her!</i>  |                                       |
| Hambarni Madoda   | Xhosa song of beauty                  |
| <i>There is a beautiful place, in a beautiful Province (The Transkei) known for its beautiful ladies</i>  |                                       |
| Lehlabula   | South Sotho                           |
| <i>An appreciation of nature, especially in Spring, with flowers, green trees, grass and pleasant weather</i>   |                                       |
| Kwakhal' ingane   | Zulu Traditional                      |
| <i>A baby strapped to the mother's back, will not stop crying. The husband wants to know what is wrong</i>  |                                       |
| Bayethe   | Zulu patriotic song                   |
| <i>A contemporary song in Praise of Nelson Mandela. A Zulu plea to unite all South Africans, and that God should bless the land so that it can prosper!</i>   |                                       |
| Abay' Enetal  | Zulu patter song                      |
| <i>Natal is a beautiful land, as it is situated along the Coast. Therefore many Gentlemen head to Durban and spend all their money. Their wives are somewhat concerned as to who will pay for the groceries and house rent, back at home!</i> |                                       |
| Ajkele Eziindonga   | Xhosa song describes a Miracle        |
| <i>A song about the Ancient Israelites breaching the walls of Jericho with trumpets and harps</i>   |                                       |

An appropriate time for an intermission

**PART II**

**Izintabe Ezikude**

**Zulu work song**

*In Arican life, men often leave home for long periods of time looking for work in urban areas.*

*The wives who stay behind at home remember their loved ones no the other side of the great mountains.*

**Ke MoSotho**

**A song of MoSotho pride**

*What distinguishes a MoSotho tribesman from others? He will eat horse meat. He is very proud of his language, and of his particular traditional dress.*

**Amabhayisikili**

**Zulu song from the 1940's**

*This was a time when riding a bicycle was like driving an expensive car, today!*

*The girls would easily fall in love with the owners, and they might even marry them!*

**Unodisboom**

**Xhosa farming song**

*This farmer is furious with his herd-boy who has decided to disappear - with the entire herd of cattle.*

*Not only do the Cows represent wealth - they are the pride of Africans who work the land!*

**Qoqosha**

**Xhosa comedy song**

*This is about a very untidy kitchen, with dishes and cups all over the place. Cats, dogs, chickens are fighting furiously, and their noise adds to the confusion. The crash and clicks in the song depict the noises made by the breaking of glasses and crockery, and the animals jumping around wildly!*

**Kulezontaba**

**Unknown tribe**

*A wife broods about the husband who has left home to seek work in the City. She says that her lover is beyond those mountains. The husband's reaction is that she is drunk!*

**Ngiyayithanda Lenyoni**

**Unknown tribe**

*An appreciation of the birds, as they fly about singing sweetly*

**Umthandazo Woxolo**

**Xhosa song of Peace**

*There are so many conflicts in this world, we should all try to resolve them peaceably!*

**Imbube**

**Zulu traditional**

*A song of appreciation for the magnificence and beauty of a lioness*

**I Barker**

**Xhosa wedding song**

*This wedding song is about people who dress in western style clothing ... the song is named after the expensive shoes ("Barkers"), gorgette material and other exclusive clothing*

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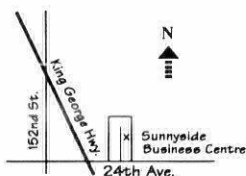
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