



LOYISO BALA



SA's multi-award winning, internationally renowned and platinum selling R&B singer **Loyiso Bala** is a household name in South African music.

Loyiso finished top of his class at the prestigious Drakensburg Boys Choir, where he spent his school years. After overwhelming success with legendary Kwaito act TKZee in 2000, Loyiso decided to release his own singles 'Musukukhala' and 'Silky Soft Skin' in 2001. The singles laid the foundation for Loyiso's solo career and he went on to release his first album "Wine Woman and Song" in 2003, and his second album 'Amplified' in 2005. These releases solidified Loyiso's reputation as South Africa's king of R&B, with singles such as 'Girl Without A Name', 'Angel', 'Gimme The Night', 'Cappuccino' and 'Cuban' making significant waves.

Since then, he has won multiple awards including 3 Metro FM awards (amongst which Best R&B album of 2007), 5 SA Music Awards (SAMAs), including Best R&B and Best Producer in 2008, and nominations for best song of 2009 and 2010 for 'Blow Your Mind' and 'Maybe'. He was also nominated at the MTV awards alongside Alicia Keys, Rihanna, Akon and P Square, and has received numerous style awards, amongst which "YOU" Magazine and GQ's most stylish male in the country.

At the end of 2002, Loyiso embarked on a world tour that saw him performing in London, America, Asia and the Middle East. Other performance highlights include several Miss South Africa Awards and Miss World appearances. He has performed alongside artists of the highest caliber including Jamelia, Corinne Bailey Rae, John Legend, Brian McKnight, Elton John, Will Smith and Akon. He has also performed for some of the legendary dignitaries, such as Nelson Mandela, Richard Branson, Gordon Brown, Bill Clinton, Oprah Winfrey and more.

Loyiso is an ambassador for the 46664 campaigns, the Smile Foundation and most recently MaAfrika Tikkun, which sees him supporting several charitable and worthwhile causes such as coaching school plays and

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performing at charitable events. He also talks about HIV education in several schools across South Africa. His partnership with 46664 lead him to put on a stellar performance for an audience of over 46,000 at the Nelson Mandela 46664 concert in Hyde Park in July 2008, a performance at the Madison Square Gardens, New York in July 2009 and at Radio City Hall, New York for Nelson Mandela's 91st birthday celebration on the 18th of July 2009.

Loyiso's singles 'I want you', 'Blow Your Mind' (the title track), 'Take Me Back', 'Dali Wami' and 'Maybe', were all simultaneously listed in the top 100 radio charts in South Africa in late 2008. In 2010 he released the critically acclaimed album "Full Circle", on which he worked. For this album he worked with producers both in the United States of America and South Africa.

Loyiso always has time for his fans and has been quoted as saying: "Live performances are where I am able to bring everything I love about music together on one great platform". One such performance was alongside Alicia Keys, Shakira, the Black Eyed Peas and John Legend at the FIFA World Cup Kick-Off celebration concert, taking place at Soweto's 30,000-capacity Orlando Stadium on the 10th of June, a day before the opening match of the World Cup.