



Press Release

Nelson Mandela's Poet Laureate pays special tribute to Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam

Zolani Mkiva, the foremost traditional oral poet and musician in Africa will be releasing a music album in honour of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, the late Prime Minister of Mauritius. Mkiva has written and composed a special dedication and tribute which is entitled "Father of the Nation", in reference to the founding Prime Minister of the independent Island of Mauritius. The album will be officially released before the end of August 2011 and thereafter it will be made available to the public.

Zolani Mkiva, recognized as Nelson Mandela Poet Laureate will also be releasing a lithograph highlighting the lyrics of the rendition delivered in the song he has penned for Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam. The lithographs will be a limited edition and have already been dubbed a collectors item that represents an important heritage epoch of Mauritius.

A business contingent of the Poet of Africa, led by Dr George Smith will be in Mauritius in advance to, amongst others, make final arrangements for the release of both the music album and the first series of lithographs. All music and literary projects are released under the auspices of Poet of Africa which is also Zolani Mkiva's official title. The South African team has been working closely with Mr Rameshh Beetul, a Mauritian businessman and resident. Over the last few months Rameshh has been working closely with Poet of Africa and Dr George Smith to bring this heritage project to fruition.

Schedule permitting, the Poet of Africa, Zolani Mkiva is expected to arrive in Mauritius in about a weeks time. It is envisaged that upon his arrival a press launch for the musical international single and the lithographs will be scheduled. Further details will be communicated in due course.

During his visit, Zolani will also be engaged in business meetings with prominent figures in Mauritius wherein he will be exploring mutually beneficial investment opportunities in Mauritius. The Poet of Africa is well known for his passion in contributing towards business development and community upliftment in various sectors of the economy throughout Africa. In his capacity as the Chairman of the African Royal Awards, Zolani Mkiva sees Mauritius as a potential future host country for the awards ceremony, thereby entrenching Mauritius's status as a premium African holiday destination. Depending on the outcome of negotiations with both the public and private sector Mauritius will be a perfect place to host a number of International Events that seek to position and market African excellence from a different perspective.

The special tribute to Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam is seen as historic and is certainly an unprecedented initiative of Zolani Mkiva in honour of a great leader. The Poet of Africa has also successfully produced similar works for other world icons such as Nelson Mandela and Fidel Castro.

Zolani Mkiva says this composition is the Poet of Africa's gift to the people of Mauritius. This musical will certainly find its rightful place in the hearts of all Mauritians and peace loving Africans.

The lithographs have already attracted interest from art collectors, heritage institutions, captains of industry, business and corporate alike. Zolani has pledged a percentage of the proceeds from the sale of both the CD's and the Lithographs to community projects still to be identified in Mauritius.

Zolani Mkiva's official website is www.poetofafrica.com
Email enquires can be directed to info@poetofafrica.com

Issued by: His Royal Heritage Records and the office of Poet of Africa