

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE KRAAL EXTENDED BY POPULAR DEMAND AS STATE THEATRE CELEBRATES HERITAGE MONTH

**Audiences get another opportunity to experience a powerful story of ancestry,
identity and inheritance from 18 to 20 September 2026**

Pretoria, South Africa, 14 September 2026

The South African State Theatre (SAST), in association with Artists Legend & Legacy Projects Pty Ltd, is delighted to announce the extension of **The Kraal** by popular demand, with three additional performances from **18 to 20 September 2026** at the **Sibusiso Khwinana Theatre**.

The extension comes at a fitting moment as South Africa celebrates **Heritage Month**, giving audiences an opportunity to encounter a compelling homegrown production that places African heritage, cultural memory and the complexities of inheritance at the centre of the stage.

Originally scheduled from 3 to 13 September, **The Kraal** explores family, power, leadership, African spirituality and the often-complex meeting point between tradition and a changing world. Its extended run invites audiences not simply to celebrate where we come from, but to reflect on what we inherit, what we preserve and what we choose to reimagine.

Written and directed by **Bongani Bennedict Masango** and mentored by acclaimed theatre practitioner **Aubrey W. Sekhabi**, the production is set within a fictional Zulu royal household in KwaZulu Natal during the late 1990s. At its centre is Banele Dlamini, an ambitious young law student whose return home draws him into an intense succession struggle where ambition, duty, family secrets and ancestral expectations collide.

For Masango, the story is deeply personal. Inspired by his own connections to the kraal through both his maternal and paternal families, the work draws on experiences and stories surrounding customs, rituals, family structures, inheritance and ancestral expectations.

This makes **The Kraal** particularly resonant during Heritage Month. Rather than presenting heritage as something frozen in the past, the production brings it into conversation with the present. It asks audiences, particularly younger generations, to consider how culture can be honoured while still being questioned, negotiated and carried forward.

Through performance, movement, live music and ritual, the kraal becomes more than a physical space. It becomes a meeting place between generations, between the living and the ancestral, and between individual ambition and collective responsibility.

The extension further reflects the South African State Theatre's commitment to providing a national platform for original South African stories that celebrate the richness of the country's cultural heritage while creating space for contemporary conversations about identity and belonging.

This Heritage Month, audiences are invited to return home, return to memory and enter The Kraal.

The Kraal returns to the **Sibusiso Khwinana Theatre from 18 to 20 September 2026**. Tickets are **R150**, available through Webtickets and Pick n Pay outlets nationwide.

PRODUCTION DETAILS

Production: The Kraal

Extended Season: 18 to 20 September 2026

Venue: Sibusiso Khwinana Theatre, South African State Theatre

Writer and Director: Bongani Bennedict Masango

Mentor: Aubrey W. Sekhabi

Age Restriction: 16 PG

Tickets: R150

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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