



# PULSE

NOV - DEC 2022

**SUCCESS AT NYANGA  
ARTS FESTIVAL 2022**

**NHIMBE JOINS 16  
DAYS OF ACTIVISM**

**BEST WISHES  
FROM NHIMBE TRUST**





# Success at Nyanga Arts Festival 2022

The inaugural Nyanga Arts Festival rolled out from 27-29 October 2022 in Zimbabwe's mountainous Eastern Highlands, attracting a combined audience of over 4000 in the small picturesque town, to exciting and diverse music events, theatre and workshops.

NHIMBE TRUST and the Nyanga Arts Festival Patron and organising committee have great pleasure in reporting the success of the inaugural festival, and thank all artists, partners, sponsors, volunteers for working together so powerfully to ensure that all objectives were met at a very high level, and thank all audiences for turning out in such numbers, which augurs well for the future of the festival, and the tourism potential of Nyanga.

## A crowd estimated at 2000 swarmed the 'Bira'

Close to 600 (597) music-lovers attended the main concert at the Montclair Hotel which featured popular Zimbabwean artists Jah Prayzah, Feli Nandi and MC Abisha Palmer, who raised a stir with lively performances at the luxurious venue. Never-before-seen in this part of the world, but widely admired from radio broadcasts, the artists fired up the crowd, both locals and visitors alike, with modern African music styles spiced by the boldness of youth and fame.

A crowd estimated at 2000 swarmed the 'Bira' at the rural homestead of festival patron Chief Saunyama, where they were treated to performances by Sarungano and the Storytellers band, the mysterious artist Mystery, and the main act, the Mangoma Moyo-led 'Music According to Percussion'.





MAP, as they are commonly known, brought into the spotlight ancient traditional styles of drumming, singing and instrumentation which had been hidden in the depths of decades of overriding music cultures, and almost forgotten for lack of exposure. This received the approval of village elders, culture-bearers who were overwhelmed to hear their music played again, and at the invitation of the band, surged onto the stage to perform with, and even taking over the band at different points in the performance.



Acknowledged and embraced by young people with renewed respect and pride, the MAP performance also introduced new dimensions – augmenting the Jekunje drumming, Nyonganyonga/Malimba mbira music and Nyanga panpipes with electrical instruments while still keeping its core rhythmic and harmonic structures. Added to this, to the delight of the audience was the new experience of hearing four women instrument-players - Melody Mutembo (drumkit), Zvikomborero Matimba (bass), Vivian Tavaziva (percussion) and Chiedza Tiyenga (mbira), together with the three men in the group - Takudzwa Bare, Kudzai Muwori and Othnell 'Mangoma' Moyo.





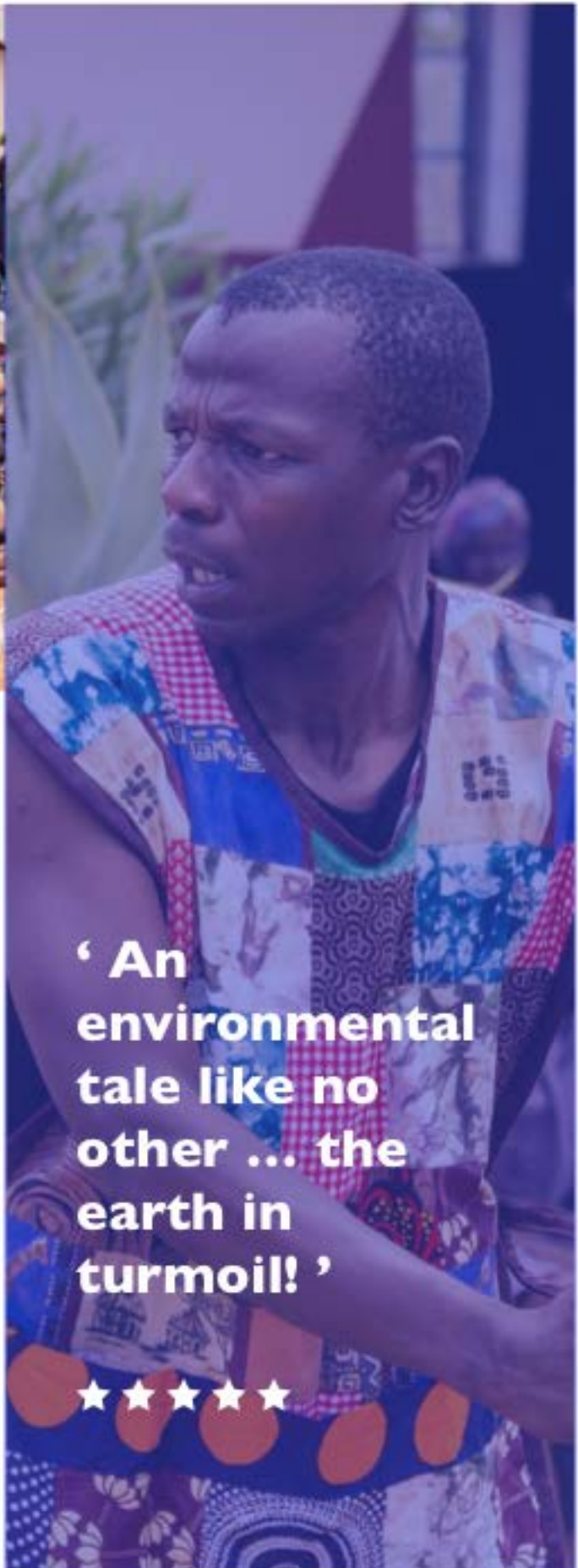
# Theatre



**'AN ACT OF MAN'**, the one-man play featuring Zenzo Nyathi, was presented at the festival to an audience of around 2000, caught up in the enthralling story woven and crafted by famous Bulawayo actor/directors Memory Kumbota and Zenzo Nyathi.

Described online by theatre guru Daves Guzha as 'an environmental tale like no other ... the earth in turmoil!' and '... seamless direction by Memory Kumbota', the play, which can be delivered in any setting from sophisticated theatre stages to outdoor arenas with the most rudimentary amenities, was delivered to a huge crowd at the Maereka Primary School, and the impact on the audience of students, teachers, and other community members was evident by their intense interest and questions to the artists after the performance.

Kumbota said the rural community at Maereka primary school was the perfect setting for the environmental play. It fitted in and was so well embraced that it has inspired ideas of rural touring and schools shows and workshops in future.





# Music Business Masterclass



Melody Zambuko, Director of Music Crossroads Zimbabwe, who moderated the Music Business Masterclass on Thursday 27 October facilitated by renowned drummer and former band manager Sam Mataure and industry expert Lisa Sidambe, reported that the masterclass was very successful. Attended by 55 artists and arts practitioners, including artists performing at the festival from Bulawayo and Harare and local artists from Nyanga, the success of the programme was made possible by the support of the Nyangani Community Radio Station who were very helpful in spreading the word of the workshop, and very excited about it, as were the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation.

"I thought the workshop was very resourceful, very relevant, and very well received" said Zambuko. "I believe it was much needed, because among the participants were a number of artists from Nyanga who are already practicing musicians, but in discussion on important elements of the music business, we realised they were not knowledgeable in quite a number of areas. So it was important to unpack and go a level deeper, in terms of the tricks behind touring and booking, and understanding of intellectual property. Participants were very eager, with a lot of questions.

For the future, this workshop would need a full day. I was very happy with the overall success of the programme and that we were able to increase their understanding of the subject matter. Linked with that it was important for us to partner with Nhimbe Trust on the festival as it also gave very good visibility for the Music Crossroads Academy for those who want to go to the next level; they can then pursue the different training courses and programmes in more detail," she said.

*Sam Mataure said "Nyanga was great, and the festival was a great success. We had a good turnout for the workshop but realized that there's need for more of such workshops to help the artists with information. Waiting until festival time is not enough."*

# Feedback from the Festival

## Chief Saunyama

*Patron of the festival*

The Patron of the festival, said: "Congratulations to the people of Nyanga on the inaugural edition of the Nyanga Arts Festival, the first in the district. We used to envy other districts and provinces such as Chimanimani, Harare and Bulawayo, and now we are grateful for the support received from the local tourism sector, and all stakeholders in Manicaland province. The festival is key in promoting local arts, culture and heritage as well as showcasing Nyanga resort town as a tourism destination of choice. We look forward to an even bigger and more exciting festival in 2023 and invite both old and new partners to complement Nhimbe Trust in preparing for the next edition.

## Hon. Supa Mandiwanzira

*Nyanga South Member of Parliament*

"The festival was a great showcase of Nyanga. A very good start. The interest was amazing... People travelled from many parts of the country to be in Nyanga. I have no doubt that next year it will be bigger and better with more local participation by the local artistes ... we have to always remember that the biggest room in the world is the room for improvement!"

## Godfrey Koti

*Zimbabwe Tourism Authority (ZTA)  
Head of Corporate Affairs*

For us as the ZTA we are quite happy that the festival came to Nyanga. This is a place that is known to people locally, but we believe that this has brought in an international spin to it. The attention that we have been seeing in the media has been absolutely excellent. It helps us to market our product, to push it to different levels and different market segments, and those that follow music, that love culture and the activities that were showcased during the festival, are now definitely new potential tourism clients.

## Brian Nyakutombwa

*General Manager of Montclair Hotel & Casino*

"The festival was successfully hosted and enjoyed by all who took part, from the organizers to the festival guests. The planned shows and activities took place without incident and were executed professionally. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who made it possible.

We have been receiving lots of good feedback about the show content and logistics issues and I can safely say that the next edition will definitely be bigger and better.

As the hospitality industry we are happy that this dimension of the MICE business (Meetings Incentives Conferences Exhibitions & Events) presents endless opportunities for businesses and local communities to benefit from the hosting of such events which should spur economic development in the region towards achieving upper middle income status by 2030 as well as enable the achievement of the \$5 billion tourism economy target by 2025."

The collaboration with arts and music is such a huge thing for ZTA. Together with the Bulawayo Arts Festival, the recently ended Sangana/Hlanganani Music Festival, the Nyaminyami Festival in Kariba, and now the Nyanga Arts Festival, this gives us a holistic approach to tourism. You cannot divorce arts and entertainment from tourism. So the best way to market it is to collaborate, and we are very grateful to the organisers for putting such a show together.

We are really elated and look forward to the second edition when any small glitches will have been fixed and we will have a bigger and better show in the next edition. We are very grateful to the organisers and everyone who took part; we are thankful to them for helping us to promote this beautiful brand - Zimbabwe, The World of Wonders."

Nhimbe Trust Executive Director Josh Nyapimbi received a message of thanks from the Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation for the Trust's presence as an NGO in the arts industry, conceptualisation and design of a festival of this magnitude, and for bringing in the partnership with Music Crossroads Zimbabwe.





# NYANGA

Arts Festival.

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# 2022 FESTIVAL PHOTOBOOK



**SOLD HERE**

[nyangaartsfestival.org](https://nyangaartsfestival.org)

**CONTACTS**

Call/WhatsApp: +263 78 426 8614  
Email: [joshnyap@nyangaartsfestival.org](mailto:joshnyap@nyangaartsfestival.org)



# Nhimbe Trust joins the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence



It's 2022 and gender-based violence is still a real threat to too many people, in Zimbabwe and worldwide. The 16 Days of Activism against Gender - Based Violence is an annual campaign that begins on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs through International Human Rights Day on 10 December.

While violence works both ways between genders, violence against women and girls in particular remains the most pervasive human rights violation around the world. Already heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic, its prevalence is now being further increased by the intersecting crises of climate change, global conflict, and economic instability.

This 16 Days, we're joining the world in encouraging everyone to get involved: in amplifying the voices of survivors and activists through the arts, we can all act to empower survivors, reduce and prevent violence against women and girls, and protect women's rights.

Nhimbe Trust Gender Perspective Tools  
In Nhimbe Trust's strategic plan for the coming years, we will ensure all internal policies and practices are gender-equal and promote women's rights. We guarantee equal opportunities, apply gender - sensitive approaches to Cultural Rights research and policy advocacy, and ensure gender balance in Nhimbe Trust.

[READ MORE](#)

# STOP GENDER VIOLENCE



NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 10  
**16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM**  
AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Thank you all our Partners & Friends  
for all your support in 2022, and wish you all a

# Merry Christmas

And a Happy New Year

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