

Valentine Kamau - ZIKI

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DATE OF BIRTH

14. 12. 1981

OVERVIEW

Musician, Poet, Actress, Songwriter

EXPERIENCE

VARIOUS PRODUCTIONS ON STAGE:

Phoenix theatre, Rainmaker Limited, The Theatre Company, Vagina Monologues, Mbalamwezi players to name a few.

SCREEN: MNET-Changes season 2, Guy Centre, Comedy Club, Creatives Garage session interviews. Selfish film directed by Hawa Eusman (Jitu Films)

In the eyes of a stranger

Phoenix Theatre

February 2013

Matthewmatix House Of Jazz

Goethe Institute

December 2012

Go Down Gig

The Go Down Arts Centre

October 2012

Playing For Change

Goethe Institute

September 2012

Thursday Night Live

Roots International

July 2012

V- Monologues

| Vulimu Limo ; AWOTM

April 2012

Swan Day Celebrations (in Recognition of Women in Arts)- **By Sophie Dowllar Five Seas (5 C's)**

March 2012

Kinanda Arts Festival Nairobi- By Tim Rimbui

February 2012

Share A Smile-Charity Show | By Suzzanna Owiyo & Undone Theater

Beneficiaries : Mother Teresa Children's & Senior Citizen's home

December 2011

House of Bernada Alba | Phoenix Theater

October-November 2011

Safaricom Live – Nairobi Finalist | Safaricom Ltd

October 2011

Hay Festival Kenyan Chapter | Storymoja Trust

September 2011

V-Monologues : Charity Show | Vulimu Limo ; AWOTM

Beneficiaries : Fistula Foundation (Kenya)

April 2011

Sanaa Fusion | Mambo Artssy

April 2011 – August 2011

Kwani Open Mic | Kwani Trust

July 2011

Gallery Watatu Exhibition Launch | **Gallery Watatu**

April 2011

Kenya Music Week | **Phat Magazine**

December 2010

VOICE OVER PRODUCTIONS FOR MAJOR BRANDS, TO NAME A FEW:

Safaricom Ltd, UBA , Femiplan (Psi), SIRI radio drama(Psi & Nation Media), Coffee Board of Kenya TVC, Zain TVC, Always TVC, Whitestar (BIDCO) , Omo(Unilever Kenya), Dealfish, Duracoat, YU Mobile, Orange.

SKILLS

- ∂ **Stage and screen actress**
- ∂ **Songwriter/ singer**
- ∂ **Poet**
- ∂ **Professional voice over Artiste**
- ∂ **Rhythm guitar player**

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- ∂ Juja Road | Primary School Education
- ∂ Gitwe Girls | High School Education
- ∂ Kenya Polytechnic | Diploma in Journalism and Public Relations
- ∂ The Go Down Arts Centre- | Creative Entrepreneurship Course
- ∂ Strathmore University/ British Council | Creative Entrepreneurship Course

STAGE NAME

Val. ZIKI

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Val. ZIKI: musician, poet and actress.

Valentine Ziki hails from the beautiful republic of Kenya where she grew up and discovered her artistic talents.

ZIKI the performing artiste started out performing poetry in her formative years in high school. After school, she moved on to dance and musical theatre.

She's been privileged to work with some of the industry's prolific directors such as George Mungai & Millicent Ogutu both of Phoenix Theater, Eric Wainaina of Rainmaker Ltd, Peter Mudamba of Mbalamwezi Players, Keith Pearson of the Theater Company , Carole Odongo to mention but a few.

Ziki has carved a niche for herself as a multi-faceted artiste, while at the same time getting recognition as one of the country's promising new talent.

She is currently involved in freelance opportunities as a TV host and is keen on honing her skills, while at the same time exploring new dimensions to her craft.

Musical Pursuits

An outstanding singer & songwriter, Ziki has steadily cut a niche for herself as a versatile performer with a diverse repertoire

Her first single 'Nenda' was well received but it's the follow up 'Fly away' that has received rave reviews, with fans of her music eagerly anticipating her debut album, due to be released in 2013.

She incorporates different sounds to create her own distinct style of Afro-soul & Urban Fusion.

She describes herself as a voice of the unspoken, a visionary; curator of expression, time and experiences.

"I express emotions, situations, ideas, ideals and experiences. I inspire and mirror my surroundings and the society at large. My work is to inspire and ignite the world with my craft. I speak for the masses and various issues affecting them. From social justice to freedom, love, resilience and education. My music is also entertaining and uplifting. A real passion".

She performs with a five piece band known as 'SABA' which comprises of a guitarist, bassist, drummer, keyboard player, percussionist and background vocalist. She represents a dynamic

crop of artistes in Kenya's vibrant music scene. Hers is a soulful sound; an energetic performance with a stage presence reminiscent of jazz and African artistes that have influenced her over the years.

Her instrument of choice is her voice and the rhythm guitar. Her creative process as both experiential and introspective.

PREVIOUS PERFORMANCES INCLUDE:

Playing For Change, Thursday Nite Live! @ Choices, Sanaa Fusion, Kinanda Arts Festival, Story Moja Hay Festival, Kenya Music Week, Safaricom Live-Nairobi finalist 2011, Kwani Open Mic, Gallery Watatu Exhibition Launch, the GODOWNGIG among others.

She has shared a stage with:

Ayub Ogada (Playing For Change), Juliani (Safaricom Live), Juma Tutu (Safaricom Live), Eddie Grey (Hay Festival Nairobi), Makadem (Kinanda Arts Festival), Suzzanna Owiyo (Share-A-Smile Benefit concert), Yunasi Kenya (GODOWNGIG) among others.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

2011 saw the inaugural performance of the event dubbed 'Sanaa Fusion' at a Nairobi restaurant. The event co-founded by Ziki was created to give upcoming performing artistes exposure and a platform to showcase their work to the public. Through her experience in the industry, Ziki has come to appreciate the plight of the emerging artiste, who more often than not lack the much needed resources to facilitate the artistic process needed to hone their skills. Creation of a consistent income for the artistes, as well as the passion to perform & impart knowledge were some of the core reasons why this project was formed. This initiative also aimed to create a unique fusion of the three art forms, i.e. music,

contemporary dance and poetry. The project is set to resume in April and hopes to include a mentorship programme, as well as create space for new artistes from within and outside Nairobi City.

Valentine also took the time to perform for charity in two events namely: the 'V-monologues' whose proceeds went towards the Fistula Foundation, in order to help offset the cost of treatment for women with the fistula condition. In December 2011, she was invited to perform at the 'Share-A-Smile' concert and helped collect clothes, food and toys, which were donated to 'Mother Teresa', a home for senior citizens and orphaned children. It was geared towards encouraging people to share and assist the under privileged communities during the Christmas season

Ziki is passionate about her community and is always interested in finding ways to create a positive impact.

ASPIRATIONS

- To hone my skills in music and the performing arts in general
- To travel and perform globally, experience new cultures and a different environment with the hope that it will inspire a new dimension to my work
- To engage further with my immediate community so that I can share the knowledge I acquire and mentor emerging artistes

CHARACTER TRAITS

**DEPENDABLE, CREATIVE, OUTGOING,
PERSISTENT, AMBITIOUS.**

DISCOGRAPHY

Nenda: Released in 2010

produced by FUTURE SOUNDS

Style: Afro-fusion

Video by VIVID Features

Fly Away: Released in 2011

produced by LODWAR RECORDS

Style: Neo-Soul

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THE END.