

South African Film and Television Awards  
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## Press Release

### **08<sup>th</sup> Annual South African Film and Television (SAFTAs) Nominees Announced**

**Embargoed until Wed 5 March 2014 21h00**

**Johannesburg, South Africa, 5 March 2014:** The long awaited moment on South Africa's entertainment calendar arrived on Wednesday evening when the 2014 nominees of South African Film and Television Awards (SAFTAs) were announced. There was an air of anticipation as nominees, celebrities and esteemed guests arrived at the VIP Supper Club, Urban Tree, in Sandton, amidst photographers and camera crew clamouring to get a shot of the industry's "who's who".

On arrival guests were offered a selection of drinks and canapés and were warmly greeted by the eminent Master of Ceremonies, Mr Alan Committie. A former SAFTAs winner for Best Supporting Actor and well known for his comedic skills and his talent as a writer and director (also a former winner of a SAFTAs Golden Horn) kept the audience thoroughly entertained throughout the event. Zama Mkosi, NFVF CEO and Chairperson of the SAFTAs Committee welcomed the guests and highlighted South Africa's celebration of 20 Years of Democracy, saying that this theme would also be used to showcase SA's film and television heritage during the Awards. "As a sign of the growing industry confidence towards the SAFTAs, we continue to see an upward trend in the number of entries. This year a total of 432 entries were received compared to 354 entries in

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2013. A healthy 22% increase from last year." Zama made specific mention of leadership provided by the two Overall Judging Chairpersons, Jerry Mofokeng and Roberta Durrant.

Jerry Mofokeng echoed Zama's sentiments declaring that "It has been my resolve to maintain the integrity of these awards throughout. We believe that we've fine-tuned the nominee process and remained advocates for both the industry and the SAFTAs." He also made mention of the categories in which there were no nominations.

A full list of the nominees is available, but some of the highlights are the nominees in the Best TV Drama Category who overall received more than one nomination in recognition for their achievements: *Intersexions: Season 2* received eight (8) nominations, *Tempy Pushas* four (4) nominations, *Room 9*, seven nominations while and *Rockville* received five nominations.

This year a new category, Made for TV Movie, was introduced as a result of the number of Drama and Feature entries submitted that specialised in TV. This year the category focused on Best Writer and Best Director, the Writing Team for *Inside Story* and Kalumbu Kapisa for *The Wall* announced as nominees for Best writer while Felicia Molusi for *Isithembu*, Rolisizwe Nikiwe for *Inside Story* and Kalumbu Kapisa for *The Wall* were nominated for Best Director. The Best Feature Film category saw the following films nominated: *Long Walk to Freedom*: Videovision Entertainment, *Of Good Report*: Spier Films and *Sleeper's Wake*, produced by Bioskope Filmworks.

In the hotly contested Best Soapie Category the nominees are: *Isidingo*, *Generations*, *Scandal*, *Villa Rosa*, *Isibaya*, *7 de Laan*, *Rhythm City*, *The Wild* and *Binneland*. Unfortunately, this year *Muvhango* was not nominated as it failed to meet some of the SAFTA entry guideline requirements (detailed here: <http://nfvf.co.za/saftas>).

As the nominee announcement came to a close, the evening was by no means over. Alan took to the stage and had the audience in stitches with his stand-up act. In tune with the celebratory feel of the evening the versatile DJ Switch then

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opened up the dance floor by spinning the decks and guests started to party, dancing the night away in true SAFTAs style. Remember to watch the Awards Ceremony on the 4th and 5th April to see which nominees receive a Golden Horn!

**About the SAFTAs:**

The first SAFTAs were held in 2006 under the National Film and Video Foundation of South Africa (NFVF) banner. The Awards honour talent in the South African film and TV industry by celebrating and promoting home-grown creativity, quality and excellence - as well as encouraging talent, entrepreneurship and development within the industry. A SAFTA winner is presented with a [Golden Horn](#) which symbolises Circularity as an organising principle in African thought and, like a continuous reel of past-present-future, speaks to endless creativity.

SAFTA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/safilmandtvawards>

SAFTA Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SAFTAS1>

SAFTA Website: <http://nfvf.co.za/saftas/the-golden-horn-story>

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