

THEKU

THEKU
THE MONTHLY GAZETTE

BIRTH OF A
NEW
HERITAGE
2022

A HOMECOOKED
EXPERIENCE



EDUCATION IS KOOL

BEACH DAY DURBAN

MADE IN DURBAN:
VOICE OF THE CITY

SPONSORED BY DYR

TOP 10 FRESHMAN
CHARTS

EDITION:

2ND
NOVEMBER
2022

[CREATIVE TALK]

SOULKIT
PRODUCER

"MY BEATS ARE A
REFLECTION OF
MY PERSONALITY"

VOICE
THE OF
CITY



[OCTOBER EDITION]

blue

DIGITAL LOVE



A short film by **SANELEQWABE.TM**

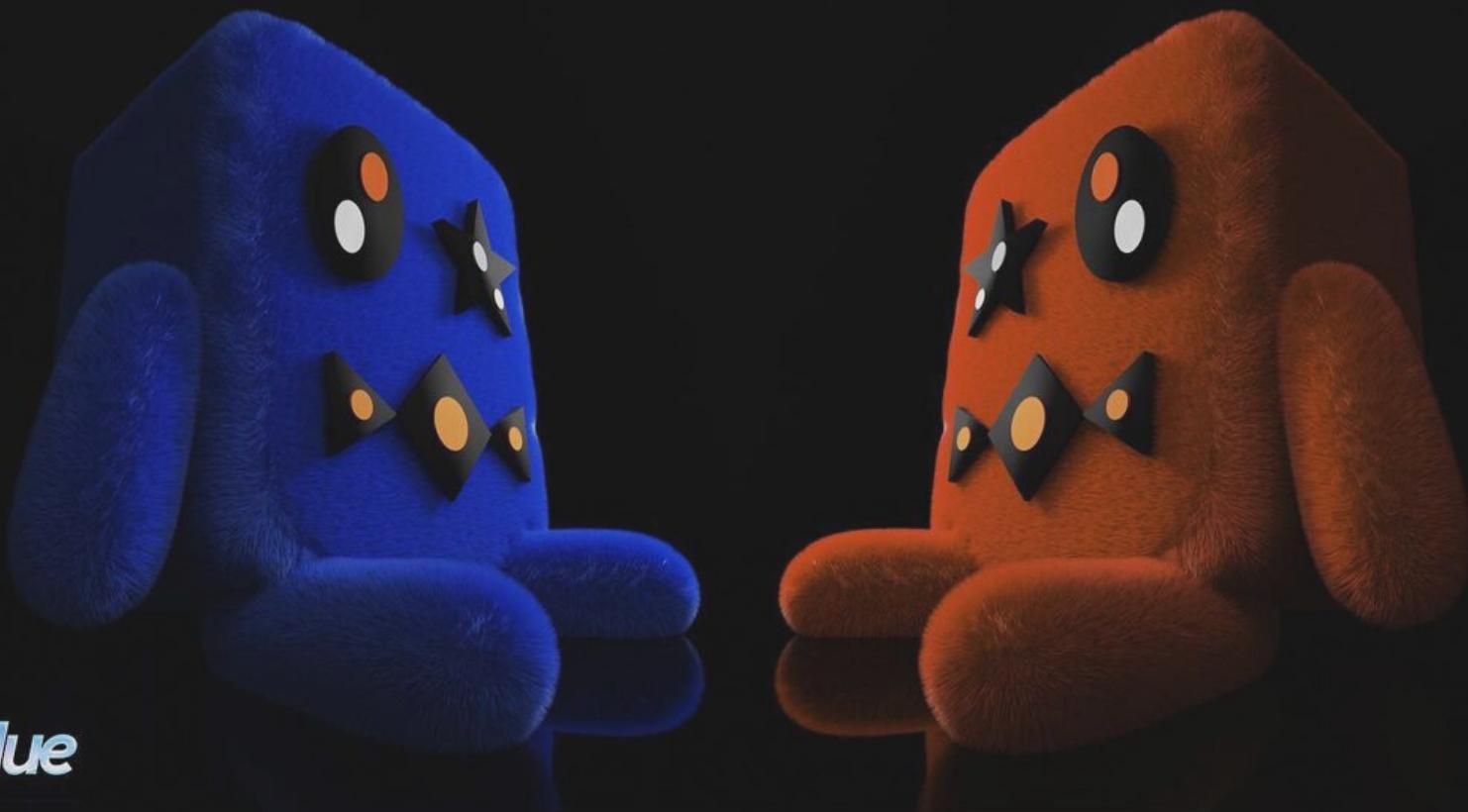






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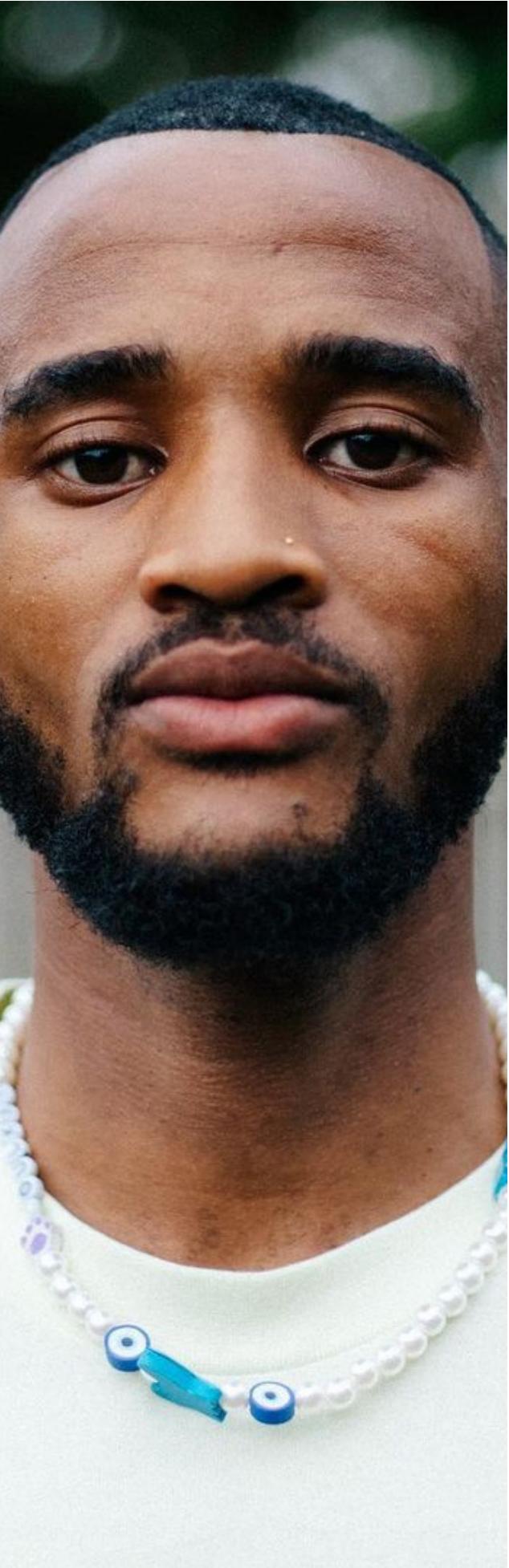
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WITH BRIAN ZWANE AKA SOULKIT
CREATIVE TALK

If your beats had a personality, how would you describe them?

"I feel like my beats are a reflection of my personality, so I'd describe them the same way that I would describe myself, my sound is soulful, groovy, trappy, quirky, and I feel like as a person I also offer those traits."

What mechanism do you use to cope with stress?

"To be honest there is no mechanism that I use or resort to. I deal with every situation differently, if I'm stressed about something I try my best to find a way to deal with it... I hope that makes sense."

If you had to collaborate on a project with any artist, who would it be?

"There are so many people man, the list is too long but currently I'm f***ing with Marcus Harvey."

I feel like my
beats are a
reflection of my
personality.

WITH BRIAN ZWANE AKA SOULKIT

CREATIVE TALK



What emotions were you feeling whilst making the beat that soon became the record we all know as "Bigger Than Me" by A-Reece?

Maybe I can't tell you what I was feeling emotionally but I do remember that all I made in that week was *hella* soulful melodies with live drums, very much old school vibes, and the wildest thing is that when I made that beat, I specifically felt like Reece would be the guy for it and what happened after that was really bigger than me.

What is your favourite song from your collaborative EP with J Clu titled "Growing Pains"?

It has to be "Test Me" and it happens to be both our favourite song too.

When I made that beat, I specifically felt like Reece would be the guy for it.





BEACH DAY DURBAN : CREATING A CULTURAL PHENOMENON

In 2020, Beach Day Durban, an outdoor event near the Beachwood Country Club, Durban North, was introduced by Junior Gwabeni, the self-proclaimed “Chosen One” and his team The House of 30. Starting as a bring and share amongst friends, the first Beach Day Durban event drew an estimated crowd of 1000 people. By the announcement of the second installment, Beach Day Durban had become the most anticipated event in the city. For a city still in search of its own unique identity, Beach Day Durban served as a good example of what Durban and its people are all about. But how did it happen?

In Durban, going to an “event” generally consists of going to clubs or going to restaurants that occasionally have DJs playing just a few sets - a rather limited offering in event choices. Durban’s event scene also seemed to mimic the cultures of other major cities and had missed out on capitalizing on what made it truly unique. Durban, the city that lives in perpetual summer, also has some of the most picturesque, warmest beaches in the Southern Hemisphere.

Making the most of the city's offering, Junior and his group of friends, consisting of Skindiy Majozi, Asanda Hlongwa, and Zamile Simelane would occasionally have "bring and share" days at the beach. The carefree fun environment would turn these bring and shares days into more of a “family gathering”. After a few of these family gatherings and one iconic tweet, Junior Gwabeni unintentionally captured the city's attention by suggesting a city-wide beach day.

Timing played a significant role in everything. During this time, indoor gatherings were limited and the creative industry was also in a chokehold from the regulations in the country as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of us had been cooped up indoors and had been subjected to digital meetups on platforms such as Clubhouse. A change of scenery was necessary for everyone and a viral tweet about a city wide beach day was the perfect excuse for everyone to step out.

Drawing a crowd that seemed to reach the thousands, including some of Durban's most influential names and staple musical acts such as Dj Meech, and Junior, Beach Day Durban had now cemented itself by offering something new and refreshing to Durban.



By the second Beach Day Durban installment, Beach Day Durban had not only managed to draw a bigger crowd but also managed to build relationships and gain sponsorships from industry-leading brands such as Jägermeister. However, when the wave was at its peak and the third installment of Beach Day Durban had been announced, the city of Durban was rocked by relentless floods that decimated not only the beaches but the city as a whole. A postponement and call out to help restore the beaches once the floods had stopped was announced by Beach Day Durban and The House of 30.

Weeks later, with a new date and the support for Beach Day Durban not waning, the anticipation for the third installment of Beach Day Durban was high. However, as many people know, as a young up-and-coming, black creative in Durban "making it" and achieving your goals is always an uphill battle. Conflict over the location and the date with the municipality and other beachgoers led to another stifling postponement announcement on the day of the third Beach Day Durban installment.

Still optimistic about the reception they would receive, Junior and The House Of 30 announced another date for the third installment of Beach Day Durban. This time, no postponement statements were issued, people showed up in their numbers and the vibes were immaculate.

The third Beach Day Durban installment, also introduced the Tale Cabana, a "creative lounge" and interview area concept that had spawned from another brand relationship, this time with Tale, an online publishing platform for writers and podcasters. The founders of Tale (Thubelihle 'Leaf' Mbambo and Ziphozethu 'Lhalha' Gowa) and Beach Day Durban wanted to allow creators to showcase their talents to a large audience in the hopes of growing attention for their creative pursuits.

The Tale Cabana was headed by Anelisa Fikeni, a Durban podcaster, and Tale team member. She entertained and engaged Beach Day Durban patrons by sitting down with them and interviewing them at the Tale Cabana. EarForThis, a close collaborator of both Beach Day Durban and Tale also shot a series of content for their Youtube and Instagram at the Tale Cabana.

Personally, what makes Beach Day Durban iconic, is not the number of people it has managed to draw or the big brands that they have been able to work with. What truly makes Beach Day Durban is the space they have created. Maybe not literally, but Junior and Beach Day Durban were able to build an inclusive environment that welcomed everyone, regardless of perceived status and class. With the anticipation of a fourth installment still very high and the festive season looming, the only thing in people's minds is "what's next for Junior and Beach Day Durban? And is the culture safe in their hands?" I'm sure we'll know the answer to those questions in the months to come.

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THING
YOU
NEVER
HAD



Creative culture is driven by community.



THE BIRTH OF A NEW HERITAGE

Our city boasts several creatives that are constantly pushing forward a culture that already exists but notably bringing forth their light and speaking more life and truth to these "traditions" that exist, traditions being: collaboration, and storytelling in the context of one's specialty whether it be music, fashion, or arts and its variations.

In an age where new ideas are welcomed just as much as they are frowned upon it is inevitable that gatekeepers may exist, however, there isn't enough gatekeeping and a lack of resources that could ever stop the momentum at which Durban creatives are moving.

The work speaks for itself and does so in VOLUMES, one that is so loud it is difficult to ignore.

Music? From the cadence, flow, and lyrical content of the music, our artists have their unique ways of approaching sound which makes them a cut above the rest with music that not only appeals to Durban but is also enjoyed by different people across the country.

Fashion? Our fashion appeals to the Durban climate: prioritizing essentials, with a few sportswear influences and with beachwear mostly at the forefront.

So it comes as no surprise that more often than not, you'll see people wearing shorts either with flip flops or a great pair of kicks even in winter as it is pretty much an all-year thing despite the seasonal changes.





Events? Several events hosted by Made In Durban carry out the aim of creating a platform for emerging creatives to help them gain supporters and help small business owners gain more customers through thrifting as it is still a culture that exists and is still very relevant in the city.

These events help like-minded people come together with the probability of a collaboration taking place, thus creating growth possibilities for all parties involved.

The setups at the events are always as laid back as the city is and finding yourself at a place where you can relax and unwind is most definitely not a rarity.

Art? Durban has a beautiful community of artists and art lovers, one that continuously grows from strength to strength. With exhibits that are thought-provoking and wonderful to experience, we can't wait to see more of the magic that is going to be created by these amazing people that are constantly sharing their amazing work with us.

There is so much that this city has to offer and we are very excited to share all that we can about the amazing places and people that this city has. This is Durban, the warmest place to be with the coolest people you might ever see.

MADE IN DURBAN: PLATFORM FOR YOUNG CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURS



Made in Durban Entertainment and Media is a platform for young creative entrepreneurs to showcase their talents. We strive to bring to the fore a relatively undocumented and unpublicized culture within the city of Durban.

In doing so, improving and maintaining the welfare of the Made in Durban community. We believe that education is our most valuable tool to competently impart knowledge, thus it is our duty to cultivate a well-informed community.

We want to ensure that the next generation of innovators within our social sphere is equipped with the knowledge and gravitas required to affect not only our community but can also push their expertise past our current domain, with the mainstream economy being of keen interest to us.

Made in Durban was established on three key principles that we consider to be focal to social balance: **community, diversity, and collaboration**. Since our inception in the year 2020, we have garnered and continue seeking additions to our intimate community of creative entrepreneurs. We're proud to have formed many partnerships with people and communities stationed on the ground within the city of Durban.

The support of our partners and collaborators has helped us stay faithful to our philosophy while steadily progressing the name and ideas of Made in Durban.

Our family speaks to a diverse demographic of young creatives. Our community boasts members from many ethnicities and mirrors the diversity of our beloved Durban shores in a very sublime way.





TINZ CLOTHING : A HOMECOOKED EXPERIENCE

Nipho Hurd - musician, entrepreneur, and hometown tastemaker has turned Studio 031 into a home of hosts for many creatives from Durban with her monthly installment, The Tinz Pop-Up Market.

The sweet-smelling aroma and well-curated space serve as a way of making anyone attending for the first time feel loved by the regular attendees and at home.

The soothing ambiance will take you on a journey of curiosity to explore the different vibrations in the room, whether you're trying to switch up your closet with retro-inspired garments by one of the many resident pop-up stalls available or you are simply just a coffee aficionado waiting to be served by Ngwenya Coffee.

Nipho describes the atmosphere at any Tinz event as a "Party of Energies and Souls". It's young people happy to be themselves and to be with others who share the same ideas. It's pure joy and creative bliss. It's a safe space, a creative business hub. It's like a hug.



TINZ CLOTHING : A HOMECOOKED EXPERIENCE

Creative independence seems like the trend of the season in the city with many creatives coming up with innovative ideas that are raising awareness of the city.

Nipho Hurd, who is no stranger to the entertainment industry with 11 years of experience, is an emerging pioneer and city tastemaker to watch out for.

The message this event tries to spread is: "YOUR DREAMS ARE VALID. YOU ARE SEEN. YOU ARE ENOUGH. YOU ARE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO WIN. LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL".



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THE OF
CITY



Education Is Kool, a space within our monthly gazette, is aimed at celebrating the achievements of students from schools all over Kwa-Zulu Natal.

In association with Durban Youth Radio's The Hot 30 Chart Show with Mkay Music, each month we offer one student the opportunity to use the platform as a way to represent their school whilst being interviewed on the show.

We encourage all student body councils to kindly use our email address to send through any updates.

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TOP 10 HIPHOP/RAP FRESHMAN CHARTS

01



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IDK FT CHRIS SNAKES

02



PRODIGEE
TRAPPY SHII

03



CHRIS SNAKES
THEY KNEW FT SIPHO THE GIFT & SPTMBR YNG STR

04



RHYDM
GRAND SHUTTLE 2.0

05



JORIERICH
WISHLIST





TOP 10 HIPHOP/RAP FRESHMAN CHARTS

06



OB MAGIK
BEVAL'IMINYANGO

07



BEANS JENNY

08



MAC11
GUNMAN FT SAZI & SKHINDI

09



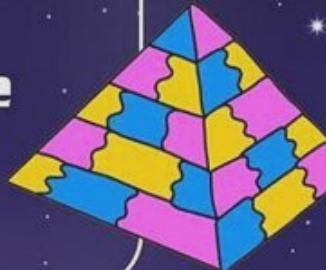
AYON SEPTEMBER
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10



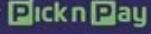
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