

SUTHUKAZI AROSI

The multi-talented Suthukazi Arosi, who was born in Cala Transkei, Eastern Cape, South Africa, at an early age she was introduced to music and became an accomplished actress and dancer.

Suthukazi studied ballet and modern jazz in Cape Town before moving to Johannesburg to pursue her career in the entertainment industry, when she worked with Gibson Kente.

With every song Suthukazi creates, sings and performs she tries to take her audience to a spiritual journey. Suthukazi's songs are about emotions reflecting a tremendous amount of pain in form of abuse to women and children.

The results of Suthukazi's excellent work, she has received a **Kora Award for Best Southern African Artist** in 1997 as well as an **FNB Vita Award for best Leading Actress in "The Game"** .

In 2002 Suthukazi received a **SAMA Award for Best Xhosa Album**.

In the 2005 Music Awards, Suthukazi has been nominated as one of the Best Female Artists for her song "**The Journey**", also in 2005 at Cape Town Jazz Festival shared a stage with some of the well known artists for their incredible amazing works, The Commodores, Cesaria Evora and African Jazz All Stars led by Lucky Ranku.

Suthukazi's first album, **Oshakati** was followed by an extensive local and International touring schedule that included countries Zambia, Zimbabwe, USA, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Portugal, Switzerland, Singapore, Japan, United Arab Emirates to name a few.

Suthukazi's has featured in many successful projects produced by the likes of Chicco Twala, Caiphus Semenya, Letta Mbulu, Hugh Masekela, Jonas Gwangwa and Miriam Makeba. She featured prominently in Laduma, which toured Japan for the World indigenous Music Festivals as well as in Afrovibes Festival in Holland and Germany.

She was also involved in Raymond Vuyo Mantinyane fundraising project. She draws her inspiration from many different facets of her life with people influencing her writing.

Suthukazi's album **Ubuntu** speaks of many things from the struggles waged by South Africans, to healing of the many wounds inflicted by South Africa's troubled past. It is healing educative as well as entertaining.

Suthukazi's new album **The Journey** is a slight diversion for this incredibly-talented woman. We see an album that fuses modern urban African Rhythms with the rural ambiances that Suthukazi is so famous for delivers magically both live and in the studio. In Suthukazi's own words. 'Music is the language of the soul.' This musical blend creates music that one can dance, whilst maintaining its identity and integrity as purely African music with powerful and effective messages delivered with exotic power.

Suthukazi **performed for President Mbeki** at the Union Building for the National Awards Ceremony in August 2004.

Also **performed for Nelson Mandela's birthday** with the likes of the late Nina Simone, Michael Jackson, and Stevie Wonder to name a few.

TOURS & PROJECTS

- First duet album created in 1987 Cheek to Cheek "Oshakati"
- Worked with world renowned artists Caiphus Semenya, Letta Mbulu, Hugh Masekela, Jonas Gwangwa, Miriam Makeba and Others
- Featured on projects with Chicco Twala including Starring Laduma which toured Japan for the World Ingenious Music Festival.
- Afrovibes Festival Holland and Germany
- Raymond Vuyo Mantinyane Fundraising project
- International Joy of jazz Festival, Johannesburg August 2002
- Tour with the Lion King – USA

ALBUMS

1987 - Duet: Oshakati – Fire
1990 - Suthu Arosi – Umziwasha
1994 - Suthukazi – Ayeza
1996 - Mahube – Maheba
2001 – Suthukazi – Ubuntu
2002 - The Best of Suthukazi
2004 – The Journey

AWARDS

1997 – Kora Award for best Southern African Artist.
1997 – FNB Vita Award for best leading Actress in "The Games"
2002 – SAMA Awards for best Xhosa Album
2005 – Nominated under the best female Artist for SAMA awards.