



# NEW VOICES 2018

## AUDITIONS CALL

**Production:** *No Further Questions* by Zinobulali Goduka

**Director:** Fatima Dike

**Language:** English / isiXhosa

**Synopsis:**

*A black female student activist, Khanyisa, is a leader in the "fees must fall" protests. She is in an affair with a policeman James Mhleli and is bi sexual. The play unfolds the relationship between these two characters who seem to be at odds as far as their careers go. On the other hand one wonders if James knows that Khanyisa is bisexual and if he does he approve? On the other hand if he doesn't know what will happen when he does find out? Does James see eye to eye with Khanyisa about her role in the fees must fall protests? This is an intriguing play about an intriguing couple.*

**Dates:**

*Rehearsals:* 17 September – 7 October 2018.

*Performances:* 8 October to 13 October 2018.

Performances are nightly from Tuesday to Saturday with a matinee on Saturday afternoon.

**Performance venue:** Artscape Arena

**Audition Dates:** Thursday 7 June 2018

**Audition Times:** 09h00 to 16h00

**Call backs:** 14h00 – 16h00 on Saturday 9 June 2018

**Characters:**

*Khanyisa:* Black female early 20

*Mlandelii Noyana:* Prosecutor late 30s

*James Mhleli:* Police officer & Khanyisa's boyfriend

*Khanyisa's Mother:* Modern Xhosa woman in her late 40s

*Judge Jagger:* Not age specific

**Sides:**

Please see page 2

**NB:**

Please note that each audition slot will be a maximum of 10 minutes and you will need to book an audition slot prior to Friday 1 June 2018. Please note that audition slots are booked on a first come-first serve basis.

To book a suitable audition slot, please send your CV to Brigette Fell, either via email: [projadmin1@artscape.co.za](mailto:projadmin1@artscape.co.za) or leave at Artscape Theatre Centre Stage Door, and include the name of the play you would like to audition for.

# NEW VOICES 2018

## AUDITIONS CALL

### SIDES:

#### OPTION 1:

The play is set in a courtroom. Upstage is the Judge's bench. Stage right is the jury box and THE PROSECUTOR and ZINTLE MHLELI are sitting behind. Stage left is the witness stand made by a table. JAMES MHLELI is on the stand. The audience are the witnesses of the court proceedings. The Judge enters the stage.

#### **THE PROSECUTOR**

[He gets up]. All Rise! [Everyone onstage rises]

#### **JUDGE**

[Sitting down] Thank you.

#### **THE PROSECUTOR**

As it pleases the court, I am Mlandeli Noyana. I appear for the state.

#### **ZINTLE**

As it pleases the court. I am Zintle Mhleli my lord. I appear on behalf of James Mhleli.

#### **THE PROSECUTOR**

With your permission my lord, may I present to you the charges against the accused?

#### **JUDGE**

You may proceed.

#### **THE PROSECUTOR**

Thank you my lord. Your honour, I present to you case 20132017, James Mhleli vs the state. Mr. Mhleli allegedly murdered Khanyisa Gxekani on the 21 September 2016. He shot and killed his girlfriend during a protest against university fee increment outside the Parliament. This incident took place around 15:30pm. Ms. Gxekani died on the spot. In accordance with chapter 2 section 7.2 of the Bill of Rights, the state must respect, protect, promote and fulfil the rights in the Bill of Rights. Ms Gxekani's rights were infringed when she was brutally murdered by a police officer who was supposed to be protecting

# NEW VOICES 2018

## AUDITIONS CALL

her. Ms Gxekani lost her life while fighting for the right to further her education without impediments such as those of financial constraints and racial prejudice in the higher education institutions. The Bill of Rights Chapter 2 section 29 (b) state that everyone has the right to further education, which state, through reasonable measures, must make progressively available and accessible. Upon this right Ms Gxekani was denied the right to protest as per Chapter 2 section 17 and her right to live. She was a student, a daughter, a friend, a sister and a girlfriend to Mr. James Mhleli. May her soul rest in peace.

### JUDGE

Mr. Mhleli do you plead guilty or not guilty on these charges.

---

### OPTION 2:

In a courtroom. Khanyisa is on the stand. Her hands are cuffed.

### THE PROSECUTOR

Miss Gxekani. You were caught on camera stealing coffee in the vending machines on campus. You were with other people whom couldn't be identified. This happened on the morning of 5th February 2016 at 02: 33. Do you plead guilty or not guilty?

### KHANYISA

I am not guilty your honour. If it pleases the court can we please be shown the tape?

### JUDGE

Where is your lawyer Miss Gxekani?

### KHANYISA

I insisted in representing myself your honour.

### JUDGE

Oh? I hope you don't regret rejecting the state attorney

### KHANYISA

I will not your honour.

### JUDGE

Prosecution you can cross examine her. I must say, you are a brave young woman Miss Gxekani.

### KHANYISA

# NEW VOICES 2018

## AUDITIONS CALL

Thank you my lord.

**THE PROSECUTOR**

Where were you Miss Gxekani on the 4th of February 2017 at 23:00?

**KHANYISA**

Your honour can the prosecution please show this house the tape that brought me to this stand today before I answer the questions?

**THE PROSECUTOR**

Is it a difficult question Miss Gxekani, let me rephr--

**KHANYISA**

It's a simple request.

**THE PROSECUTOR**

Your honour, she is not answering my question.

**KHANYISA**

Because you are not granting me my request.

**JUDGE**

Prosecution show us the evidence.

**THE PROSECUTOR**

Your honour I intend to--

**JUDGE**

NOW!

**THE PROSECUTOR**

If I may your honour, please accept Exhibit A. The video captured by on-campus cameras [places the tape on top of Judge's desk]

**JUDGE**

Play it

**THE PROSECUTOR**

# NEW VOICES 2018

## AUDITIONS CALL

As you wish your honour. [He plays the tape]. There goes the accused your honour [pointing at the tape]. You see her in that navy hoodie? That's the accused you honour.

**KHANYISA**

How do you know that this person is me? You can't even see the face of that person

**THE PROSECUTOR**

Where were you on the night of the 4th of February 2016?

**KHANYISA**

You cannot ask me a question while I am asking you. How do you know?

**JUDGE**

Prosecution please answer the question.

**THE PROSECUTOR**

Your honour. Ms Gxekani is well known for her public disruption behaviour. We have witnesses who saw her wearing a navy hoodie on the 4th of February 2016.

**KHANYISA**

You mean out of 27000 students I was the only person wearing a navy hoodie that day?

**THE PROSECUTOR**

You are the only one with several charges for public disruption

**KHANYISA**

Your honour, I do not own a navy hoodie. The only hoodie I have is Blue not navy. Seems like Sir here is colour blind.

**THE PROSECUTOR**

I see you have a sense of humour Ms Gxekani [he hands to the judge a paper]. Your honour please accept Exhibit B. This is a record of entry and exits of Ms Gxekani in her residence. In the highlighted areas are the time she got out of res and the time she came back. She left the residence at 23:00. She might have waited for the last bus to campus or waited for her crew to arrive because the video shows that they got into the building at 02:00. Stole coffee and money from the vending machine. This took them an hour and 30 minutes. She went back to res and signed in at 04:05.

**KHANYISA**

# NEW VOICES 2018

## AUDITIONS CALL

Your honour, I was sitting outside my residence with my friend throughout the night. My friend is here to testify and please accept this video as Exhibit A from the cameras outside Graca Machel Hall. And, my BLUE hoodie as Exhibit

---

### OPTION THREE:

Jesus Khanyisa you don't listen. Please don't go to parliament there will be chaos there and I would hate to see you get hurt. I've been assigned to go there

**KHANYISA**

You know that is impossible babe. I have to be there. The masses need me.

**JAMES**

Okay.

**KHANYISA**

I love you babe and I hope to see you later on after parliament. [Their call is interrupted by a noise outside James office]

**JAMES**

Babe there is something happening. I will get back to you.

[Outside his office is Khanyisa's Mother and The Prosecutor arguing]

What is happening here, were you coming to see me mah?

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

NO! I came to see this bastard.

**JAMES**

Wait nidityaniswa yintoni no Mlandeli?

**MLANDELI**

It's none of your business

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

It's everyone's business. Let everyone in this station hear what an asshole you are.

**JAMES**

# NEW VOICES 2018

## AUDITIONS CALL

What is really happening here?

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

He is ashamed of me. He called me his sister in front of his mistress.

**MLANDELI**

Ubufununa ndithi gogo because uyinkondekazi kaloku wena? I don't get the fuss cz you are married too

You wanted me say granny because you are old?

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

Yindlela ondixelela ngayo leyo uba awusandithandi?

Is that how you tell me that it's over?

**MLANDELI**

Yindlela endikuxelela ngayo ukuba zange ndakuthanda

**JAMES**

EW! Benithandana?

You were dating?

**MLANDELI**

Ayikufuni lonto. That is none of your business

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

Ulimenemene le bhedengu. You are a conniving liar. You are a walking devil

**JAMES**

Calm down mama

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

Don't tell me to calm down. You don't get to tell me how to be angry. He is a son of a bitch finish and klaar.

**JAMES**

# NEW VOICES 2018

## AUDITIONS CALL

Ndicela sihambe you are embarrassing yourself. The people are looking at you [He points at the audience, he takes her by the hand and they get into his office] I think you need to tell Khanyisa that you were dating Mlandeli.

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

Why?

**JAMES**

You have placed her life in danger. That man is dangerous and he is the one who was framing her to go to jail. He is on a mission to lock up the 'culprits of FMF' no matter what it takes. And Khanyisa is provoking him. He used you to get information he can use against her.

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

OH, gracious lord what have I done?

**JAMES**

Here. [He gives her the phone]

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

Khanyisa I made a mistake, please forgive me my child. I was dating Mlandeli the prosecutor. I didn't know he was after you. Please forgive me my baby. [She starts crying]

---

### OPTION FOUR:

**THE PROSECUTOR**

This is bullshit! Yes, I installed the bug. I framed Khanyisa and killed her because she was an annoying little bitch who couldn't stay out of my way. I'm not sorry that I killed her. She deserved everything that was coming to her, okay? I was not alone in this. I was under his payroll [He points at the Judge who has been anticipating this moment]. I did all of this for me and him. I will not be punished alone he must get his own share from this also.

**JUDGE**

I didn't say kill her.

**KHANYISA'S MOTHER**

Yhuuuuu yhuuuu yhuuuuu yhini umntwanam ikuphela kwakhe! Wandixokisela wakugqiba undibulalela umntanam. Mene-mene ndini le ndonda. [She faints]

# **NEW VOICES 2018**

## **AUDITIONS CALL**

She cries very loud. My only child! You lied to me and now you kill my only daughter.

**ZINTLE**

I have no further questions your honour.