



RELAXED PERFORMANCE FACT SHEET:

SIZWE BANZI IS DEAD

BY ATHOL FUGARD, JOHN KANI & WINSTON NTSHONA

PRODUCED BY SOULPEPPER THEATRE

Sunday, June 6 at 2:00PM

The performance is approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes long with no intermission.

To help plan and anticipate your visit to the Young Centre for the Performing Arts, you may wish to also review the [Visual Guide](#).

BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE & ENTERING THE THEATRE:

- In the Atrium, a bell will go off to indicate that *Sizwe Banzi is Dead* audiences can be seated, and the lights will go up and down. There may also be an announcement over the speakers.
- The doors to the Michael Young Theatre will open approximately 20 minutes before the show starts for you to enter and find your seat.
- The quiet space in the **CABARET (room)** is available to you 1 hour before the performance begins and throughout the performance.
- You may have to line up to walk into the theatre.
- Walking into the theatre you will walk through a dark doorway and will be directed to your seats by an usher. You are welcome to get up and leave the theatre if you need to.
- The seats on either end of the row are bolted down, however you may feel slight shifting in the seats towards the middle of the row.
- The seats are quite close so you may accidentally be touching the person next to you.
- The show may start a few minutes after 2:00 PM because they might hold for any late audience members to arrive. The wait will not be too long.

DURING THE PLAY:

- The lights will go down at the start of the show but the house lights in the theatre will be left on at 30% for the duration of the play.
- The sound will be capped at 90db. You are welcome to bring and wear sound dampening headphones if you think you will find it too loud.
- Please do not go on stage during the show as you or the actors could get hurt.
- Both of the actors will come on stage and look at the audience while they are performing. They will ask the audiences questions as part of their script, but you are not expected to answer.
- One of the actors (TAWIAH M'CARNEY) might reach out to shake your hand, and you are welcome to take his hand and shake it.
- The sound design is gentle in this show. There are no jarring sounds.
- There are two brief moments of mildly bright and flashing lights, but they have been amended to be softer for this Relaxed Performance. The lights are also directed at a small section of the stage. The lights will not be directed at the audience.
- There will be a quiet space in the **CABARET (room)**. There will be a live feed of the performance on a TV there so you can continue to watch the show if you would like.

CHARACTER GUIDE:



Amaka Umeh is
STYLES



Amaka Umeh is also
BUNTU



Tawiah M'Carthy is
SIZWE BANZI

Actor Amaka Umeh plays two characters:

1. **STYLES:** owner of a photography studio in New Brighton, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.
2. **BUNTU:** a friend of Sizwe Banzi who helps him stay in Port Elizabeth despite not having a Passbook (Identity Book) that would validate his stay.

Actor Tawiah M'Carthy plays **SIZWE BANZI**, a man who has come to Port Elizabeth to look for work. He is first introduced in this play when he arrives to take his portrait at the photography studio of **STYLES**.