



COMPANY PROFILE

Mahala Empowerment Media, cc, is dedicated to empowerment through popular media. For MEM the key to empowerment is accessibility and Mahala thus stresses accessibility in the content of its productions as well as in its crewing and staffing policies. Mahala is 65% black-owned and 30% black-woman owned and prioritizes bringing elements of training, skills transfer, and working with youth into its projects. In 2005 Mahala completed its first TV series, *The Ringmaster*, a 6x48 mins reality programme about the circus for SABC2. In 2006 Mahala focused on corporate projects including the launch video and documentation for the Mazisi Kunene Foundation and work for international NGOs. This year our focus is to broaden our work in the SMME arena as well as execute our first drama for broadcast television.

DIRECTORS:

SENELE NKOSI, Managing Director, has worked as Producer and Production Manager on many projects including the Encounters Documentary Film Festival, *Africa Rising*, a 13x48 min documentary series, and numerous other projects for SABC, Multichoice, and the BBC, as well as the Department of Labor and other corporate and government clients. She also produced the pilot of *Culture*, a music talk show on Soweto TV, for which she directed her first music video. She has worked as Executive Officer of the Black Women's Network in Durban.

MPHO LEBOGO, Business Development Director, is a social entrepreneur holding CAIB (SA) with the Institute of Bankers in South Africa. He worked at Nedbank Commercial, Professional and Business Banking, then moved to FNB and RMB before becoming a full-time entrepreneur. Due to his inspirational work, the public nominated him as a torch-bearer in Cape Town's 2004 Athens Olympics Global Relay. National Business Initiative awarded him a mentorship in 2002/3 and Khula Enterprise did the same in 2005. His other organization, the Lobolo Institute, won a 2004 Proudly SA Homegrown Award as a "Company to Watch" from the Proudly SA Campaign, and has been featured in local and international media such as *The Sunday Times*, *Sowetan*, *Drum*, *Enterprise*, *Financial Mail Innovation*, *Business Day/Real-Business*, and on Khaya FM, SAFM, SABC, Voice of America, French media internet, and elsewhere.

MICHAEL LEE, Creative Director, has directed for SABC shows including *Walala Wasala*, *Get Real*, *The Big Question*, *The Ringmaster*, and the promos and inserts for the 2006 *Woman of the Year Awards*. He has also shot, edited, and directed on various broadcast, corporate, music video, and documentary products. He has lectured on documentary at AFDA and editing at WITS. Before coming to SA he lived and worked in New York, where he worked on South Africa-related programming, including as Series Producer for a pilot of a remake of the classic *South Africa Now*, and before that in Prague, where he directed cultural programming and cofounded *Trafika*, a noted international literary review.