

STUDIES IN HISTORICAL TRAUMA AND TRANSFORMATION

Public Webinar

8 December 2021

REFLECTIONS ON UBUNTU in Law, the Arts, and Humanities

A conversation

Moderated by
Professor Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela



Bongani Ndodana-Breen former Director of the Canadian music organisation Ensemble Noir, is a fellow at Yale University's Institute of Sacred Music where he is working on a project titled *African Passion*, a major new work that evokes a pan-African sonic perspective. A composer, scholar, and cultural activist, his music is a blend of African and classical styles. Among his compositions are *Hani*; the highly acclaimed *Winnie, The Opera*; *Credo* (based on South Africa's Freedom Charter) with libretto by novelist Brent Meersman; and *Harmonia Ubuntu* based on the speeches of Nelson Mandela, and premiered by the Minnesota Orchestra, one of America's leading symphonic groups. Dr Ndodana-Breen has been a fellow at Harvard University's Radcliffe Institute and was the 1998 Standard Bank Young Artist Award winner. He has received commissions from across the globe, and his music performed by some of the best orchestras around the world.



Uhuru Phalafala lectures in the English department at Stellenbosch University. Her research interests are in critical race studies, material and expressive cultures, black radical traditions, black internationalism, translation, and decoloniality. Dr Phalafala's forthcoming publications are *Mine Mine Mine*, a mythopoetic project; the collected poetry of the former poet laureate Keorapetse Kgositsile; and a monograph that reframes often unseen and unaccounted-for Black women as bedrocks of Black revolutionary thought. She heads a Mellon-funded research project "Recovering Subterranean Archives," which investigates South African culture in exile, with the view to repatriate and republish it. Through this project she republished the anthology of poetry from 1981, *Malibongwe*, by ANC women in exile.



Albie Sachs is former judge of the South African Constitutional Court, anti-apartheid activist lawyer, scholar, and author. He took an active part in the negotiations which led to South Africa becoming a constitutional democracy. Through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission he met the apartheid security agent who organised the placing of a bomb in his car which cost him his arm and sight in one eye. He played an active role in the development of the Constitutional Court building and its art collection. His books include *Soft Vengeance of a Freedom Fighter* and *The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law*, both of which won the Alan Paton Award. In 2009 Judge Albie Sachs received the Golden Plate Award of the American Academy of Achievement which was presented to him by Archbishop Desmond Tutu in Cape Town. Later that year he was presented the Lincoln.

Date Wednesday, 8 December 2021

Time 17h00 – 18h30 (SAST)

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