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THIS ISSUE CONTAINS VERY HOT CONTENT



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When something is for you, no one can take it away from you. As this was to be the case when Nkuley accompanied a friend to a casting and he ended up being the chosen one.

Fate, altogether with a social media influence were contributors to us today, knowing a model by the name of Nkuley. A woke individual who acknowledges the power of social media in society today – he shared that social media has other benefits like an income if used wisely by the individual, a message to the youth.

When asked about the opportunities in the modeling industry, he felt that the niche market is more open and accepting of models where as the commercial market is still led by a criteria that most often do not meet.

The modeling for Nkuley is a form of representation and as well as expression: "I want to open doors for people who didn't think they were represented in the modeling world; the gay black kids and the skinny male models." He hopes to be remembered as 'The Source'.



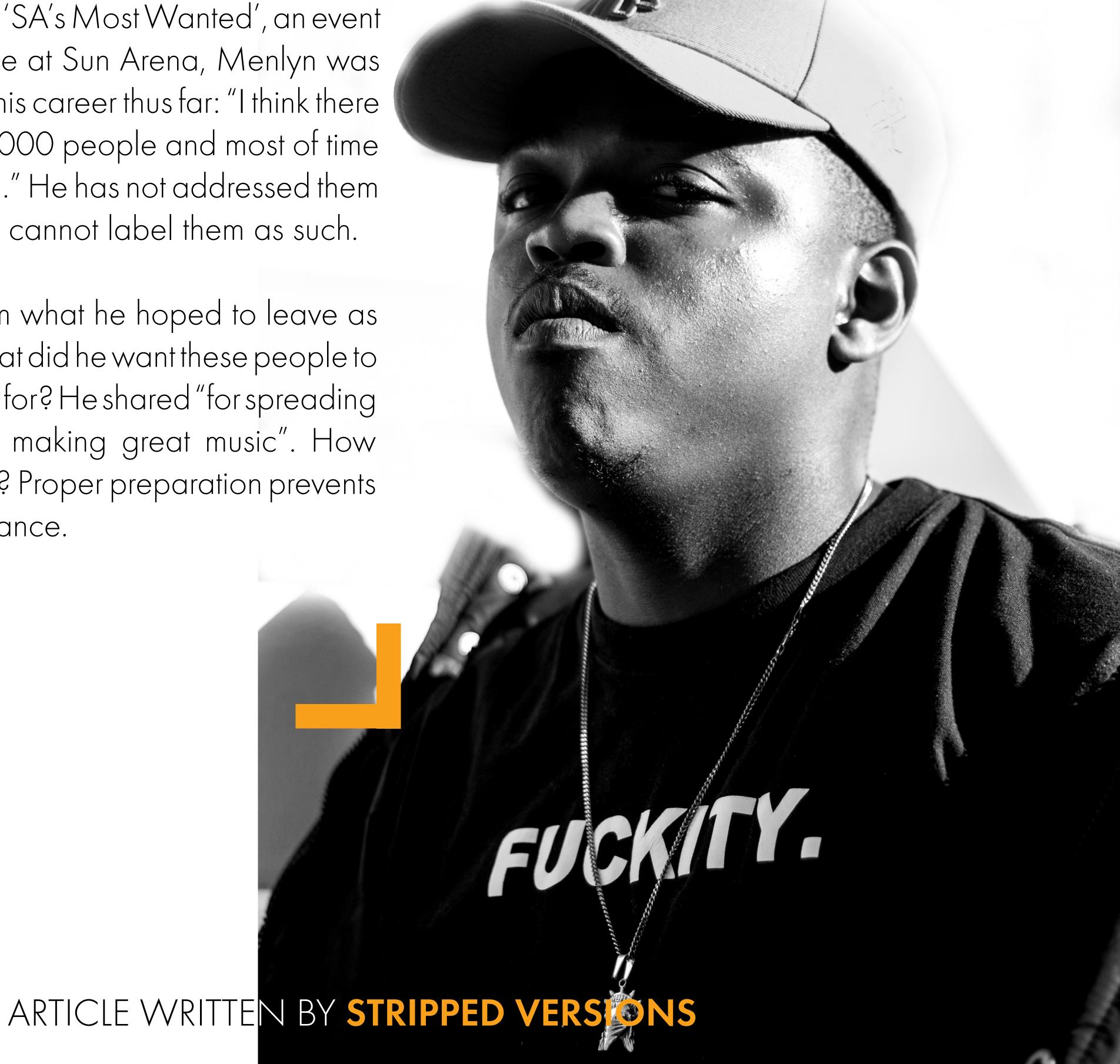
Focalistic also known 'Pitori Maradona' is a musician from the 'city' of Tshwane, Pretoria. Those who know would make the mistake of saying he raps but in actuality, he makes music. The name Focalistic was prophesized on him by his cousin. Focalistic means a 'focused guy' and you are able understand why that is his name when he shares his views on challenges as an upcoming artist.

He does not view anything as a challenge but rather as an opportunity to grow. His focus remains intact he adds that there are no artists he looks up to; as he wants to be the greatest to ever do it. Paying his respects, he goes onto add that he acknowledges the part some of the work artists like: AKA, Cassper and Jr have put in place but stresses

that his dreams are his biggest inspiration.

He tells us that 'SA's Most Wanted', an event that took place at Sun Arena, Menlyn was his favorite of his career thus far: "I think there were about 8000 people and most of time knew my song." He has not addressed them as fans so we cannot label them as such.

We asked him what he hoped to leave as his legacy, what did he want these people to remember him for? He shared "for spreading" positivity and making great music". How will he do that? Proper preparation prevents poor performance.



dirty natve

One of the foundations of life is learning – and learning involves the process of teaching but Njabulo Hlophe also known as, Dirty Native, is an illustrator/visual artist who took both roles upon himself.

Speaking to us of his illustrations and art, he said that his work is fun and again involves learning for the person on the receiving end. He classifies his work as "cartoony" and for him it is because psychologically that [cartoons] is the stage of learning for everyone through life.

Through his art, he turns into the teacher and he makes the process fun for himself and others. He agrees that illustrating is not a career that is at its peak in terms of making a livelihood for yourself but what motivated him were people saying, "You cannot do it". Assertiveness I believe; stubbornness he says but the doubt of people gave him the motivation to go on and try to find ways to live off something he loves.



Today, his motivation comes from the people who believe there is more to human beings. Looking at society norms, he is not suppose to be doing what he is at his age but it is been done – by the capacity of understanding there is more in you. The people who never thought or don't think they could be something, being that voice keeps him speaking louder. If you doubt Dirty Native and his art, prepare for his wave. If you believe in you, thank you – you are the wave.

Sample

Who is Sample? Lethabo Mokeona (T-Smashie), Mohale Mochatsi (Hale) and Mphathi Yengwa (Phathi), simple – Sample.

Sample is clothing brand, which at the current moment have only released tees. Skating inspires their tees and designs – the guys themselves are former skaters and they acknowledge skating as one of the contributors to the development of the brand. Everyone makes tees, what makes theirs different? They describe their t-shirts as everyday clothing, "not crazy fashion shit" in their words but an item you feel comfortable wearing to go buy bread, at a hangout or simply to be indoors with.

Curious about how they manage they agree on designs and make of the clothing we see - they say having three different individuals with different views is key. Their passion for designing and creating makes it easy for them to see the same even though they experience and express differently. The Sample team values the growth they have made since starting out in 2017 and they hope to be around for a long time by evolving as people but also allowing their brand to evolve with them.

They do make everyday clothing but they don't make clothing for everyone – if their brand is not for you then they feel it's okay, freedom of choice you know? However if have interest in their designs and t-shirts, the message from the Sample team is to please watch out.



tolucyebe

Thando is a 25-year-old designer and founder of the clothing and jewelry brand – Ubucwebe.

The brand started in Thando's 3rd year in university. He was able to pick out that between 2010 and 2012; society was going through a "vintage phase" and buttons were almost on every piece of clothing. He started collecting buttons and while playing with wires; he got the inspiration to tell a story of what he was living and experiencing through clothing and accessories he was exposed to at the time.

The name came from the top of his head, top of the dome! But he later was able to define it as "shining in anyway through experiencing and telling stories". Ubucwebe offers a story to the client and individual, a story that might have been experienced or live but one that they can relate to. For Thando it is not about designing but the art of being able to interpret stories from different perspectives.

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY STRIPPED VERSIONS



TCOOCC

A lot of us have heard the saying: "Love what you do and you won't have to work a day in your life." The truth in the statement is a real life experience when you get to meet the Traplords (The Brackets). Welcoming and ready to have fun – they are Pretoria's favourite house parties. Traplords is an events company that started out around 2014/2015 from chilling and conversing but has since transcended into a lifestyle. As the youth, we aspire to work hard but we are also inspired to have fun – this played a role in the mansion parties they host today. They acknowledge that clubs are nice but are not comfortable due to the societal standards placed on them.

Their 4th year of hosting the mansion parties and they feel this is due to how comfortable their parties allow you to be: entrance is reasonable, no dress code or standards – they accept you as you are and this can be seen as an attribute to their consistency and increasing support to their lifestyle. They feel another attribute to their consistency is that they live their work – "ba groova", this has since grown to be their personalities and it is now a passion of theirs-bringing fun to the people of Pretoria whilst showcasing Pretoria to "tourists' of this country as they call it. For them it is not about the money, they just want to bring fun and vibes to people and they hope with your support they can grow to one day host an event with the biggest artists on the continent and not charge for entrance.

If you have not partied with The Bracket, get your ticket for the next one because "their parties are bomb!"

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY STRIPPED VERSIONS





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