AVIJOZI 26

WHERE CREATIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY MEET

31 OCT
HYDE PARK - JOHANNESBURG

SATURDAY 31 October	Studio 1 - Upstairs Front	Studio 2 - Upstairs Back	Studio 3 - The Big One	Studio 4 - The Grande	AVIJOZI Courtyard	SATURDAY 31 October
8:00						8:00
9:00						9:00
10:00	**Show Us Your Reel 2026** *Rob van den Bragt (Chocolate Tribe),* Kay Carmichael (The Animation School)	**Netflix's The Polygamist: Producing a Global Supernovela** *Moderator: Thapelo 'Tabz' Motloung (Soweto Film Market)* *Pepsi Pokane, Rolie Nikiwe, Thuli Zuma (Stained Glass TV)*	**Netflix's The Polygamist: Writing a Global Supernovela** *Moderator: Soliana Tewolde* *Busisiwe Zwane, Nthabi Tau,* *Nontutuzelo Magoxo (Stained Glass TV)*	**Building a Distinct Sonic Identity** *Moderator: Leote Taylor (SACII)* *Zwai Bala (Bala Brothers Productions),* *Robot Boii (Robot Boii Productions),* *Lesego Mlangeni (Chee), Zethu Mashika (Stained Glass TV)*		10:00
11:15	**From Service Work to Original IP:** **New Pivots in VFX & Animation Industry** *Moderator: Nick Cloete (AnimationSA)* *Jason Joubert (JayJoBear), Tshepiso Phiri (Known Associates),* *Lola Aikins (Mollo Studios), Mak Mogoba (GFC)*	**Gaming & Comics: The Overlooked Slice of the Funding Pie** *Moderator: Amantle Dipheko* *Lesego Mailula (Majesty Comics), Thabo Tsolo (Space Salad),* *Avuzwa Ntshongwana (Southgame Studio), Tapelo Zama (Afrogeek),* Rachel Van Rooyen (Wits Digital Arts)	**Netflix's The Polygamist: Perfect Casting** *Moderator: Mathabo Tlali (Zazi Creative)* *Gugu Gumede (Joyce Gomora), S'dumo Mtshali (Jonasi Gomora),* *Kwanele Mthethwa (Matipa Nkosi), Vuyo Biyela (Freedom Gomora)*	**Masterclass** **Music and Performance & Live Performance** *Robot Boii, Calvin Maphatane (Robot Boii Productions),* *Linda Khumalo (Robot Boii Productions)*		11:15
12:30	**Building IP and Slates for a Global Audience:** **Inside the NFVF Animation Funding Slate** *Moderator: Lodi Matsetela* *Nadine Cloete (NFVF), Tshepiso Phiri (Known Associates),* *Nosipho Maketo-van den Bragt (Chocolate Tribe)*	**Policy and Incentives:** **Making South Africa Competitive for Creative Tech Investment** *Moderator: Adwoa Ankoma (Electric South)* *Francina Ntsimane (GDED), Nick Cloete (AnimationSA),* *Joel Phiri (Known Associates), Sabelo Mnukwa (CCI Action Lab)*	**Making of Global Animation Hit "David"** **World Building with Ekene Nkado (Sunrise Animation)** Moderator: Julia Smuts Louw (Sparks Flew Development Studio)	**Masterclass** **Music's Narrative Architecture** *Zwai Bala (Bala Brothers Productions)* **STEAM Music Performance**		12:30
13:45	**Pitching Session** **Chocolate Tribe Writers Call** *Moderator: Boluwatife Kolawole (Chocolate Tribe)* *Fidel Namisi,* *Nadine Cloete (NFVF),* *Angie Mills (AFDA),* *Andrina Moodley (Story Oasis),* *Kay Carmichael (The Animation School),* *Pachomius Njolai (Fortiche),* *Rob van den Bragt (Chocolate Tribe)*	**Masterclass** **4Flieks: Building Sustainable Distribution Channels for African audiences** *Thabo Rametsi (Nguniverse)*	**VFX, Animation and Content Development: A New Era** **Chocolate Tribe** *Tiaan Franken (Chocolate Tribe)*	**Film Screenings** *"Ten Ton Spirit" and "Death Chess" Trailers (SA)* *Short film "Ubani Lore?" with Q&A (SA)*	**AVIJOZI** **Let's Talk** **Sessions** with Quentin Thomas (from Chat with Leaders)	13:45
15:00		**Women's Hour: Beyond the Muse** *Moderator: Zanele Morrison (PayMint SA)* *Layla Swart (Yellowbone),* *Zimkhitha Gova (AWFII), Dorette Nel (Abyss SA),* *Nothando Pamela Migeri-Maimane, Zikhona Sodlaka*	**The Polygamist: From Rejected Manuscript to Netflix Global No.1** **The Anatomy of an African Hit** *Moderator: Vuyokazi Mnyengeza (Chocolate Tribe)* *Sue Nyathi (Author of The Polygamist)*	***SPECIAL:*** ***SIGGRAPH Electronic Theatre Screenings (USA)*** *collection of short films (82 minutes)* *Including:* *"Apart" - Directed Pola Maneli & Written by Spike Lee*		15:00
16:00						16:00
16:15	**One World, Many Screens: Building Transmedia IP** Moderator: Jess Alexander (Wits Digital Arts) *Jenna Gien-Read (Mind's Eye), Isabelle Rorke (Animation SA),* *Sithembiso Mphehle (Dipopaai Studios),* *Wako Sefara (Black Grass Entertainment)*	**Virtual Production & Infrastructure Gap:** **Financing Studios, not just Stories** *Moderator: Lesley Williams (LDW Consulting)* *Simon Makwela (Maureen Grace), Tshepo Skosana (Meraki Studios),* *Ulrico Grech-Cumbo,* Kate Marsay (Build Wealth Consulting)	**Masterclass** **Acting: Acting The Part** *Bonko Khoza*	**Insights to Directing** **with Keynote by Mandla Walter Dube (DGSA/Pambili Media)** *Moderator: Kopedi Aphane (APN Studios)*		17:00
17:15	**The Business Case for African Animation IP** *Moderator: Thandiwe Mlauli (Studio Yezi)* *Kgosi Ntono (KN Studios), Tafadzwa Hove (Willowmead Productions)*	**How Do We Achieve Real Impact in the Creative Tech Industry?** *Moderator: Lai Reineth Mokoena (Chocolate Tribe)* *Wandile Molebatsi (CCI Action Lab), Sabelo Mnukwa (CCI Action Lab),* *Mxolisi Xaba (Pixel Creators), Buzwe Bam (Pixel Creators)*	**The Elephant in the Room: Has AI become a taboo topic?** *Moderator: Chelsi Goliath (Wits)* *Tanya Blaeser (Animation School), Hilton Treves,* *Angus Davidson (Wits), Tiaan Franken (Chocolate Tribe)*	**The Director's Dilemma** **Hosted by the Director's Guild of South Africa** Moderator: Siyasanga Sityana (DGSA) Ndumiso Mnguni, MacMillan ZS Mabaleka, Raihaanah Sayed, Andile Sinqoto, Adze Ugah (The Bomb Shelter)		18:00
18:00			**AVIJOZI 2026 Closing**			

*** AVIJOZI Programme subject to change.**