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WITSIES WITH EDGE

Veteran actor and playwright **Dr Bonisile John Kani** (honoris causa DLitt 2020) was awarded the 2021 Pragnell Shakespeare Birthday Award. Dr Kani said: "I am overwhelmed by this honour with pride." In his acceptance speech he described his introduction to Shakespeare at the age of 11 in the "little dusty town of New Brighton in Port Elizabeth" through the isiXhosa translation of Julius Caesar by WB Mdledle. "That was unbelievable. It opened my mind to another world, great thoughts, another understanding of the world." Read more.





Duo Ngwako Sekhula (BSc 2018) and Mokgalakgathe Tladi (BSc 2018) beat 69 teams to walk away with top prize in the End Poverty Innovation Challenge. The virtual competition initiated by Social Ventures Foundations in the US promotes jobs for unemployed people in poor communities. They are the owners of VegeThentic. Read more.





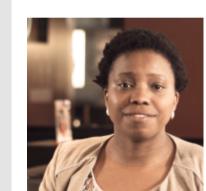




Actress Thuso Mbedu (BA DA 2014) is set to star alongside award-winning actress Viola Davis in the feature film *The Woman King*. She also plays the lead in the US series *The* Underground Railroad. Watch her recent interview with Trevor Noah.

In case you missed the feature on **David** Berchowitz (BSc Eng 1975, MSc Eng 1978, PhD 1986) and Neill Lane (BSc Eng 1982) in the April edition of WITS Review (pp 32-33), read **here** about their significant contribution in the fight against COVID-19.

SEE MORE WITSIE ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS HERE







Professor **Paul** Ruff (MBBCh 1979, MM 1986, DOH 1987) received the 2020 AG Oettlé Memorial medal from CANSA in recognition of his outstanding contributions to cancer research.

Read more.

#WITSIES4LIFE







After 22 years with the Wits School of Mining Engineering, Wits Mining Institute director Professor Fred Cawood (GDE Min Eng 1995, MSc Eng 1997, PhD 2000) is keen to start his "second life". "The Japanese believe your second life starts at the age of 60. You have your first life, where you have the opportunity to make some mistakes...believe me I have made many...in the second life it's about doing

a moving tribute to him. good." Read more. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Whether you graduated last year or decades ago, share what you've been up to:

Michael Dams (BSc Eng 1982) shares his role in the reproduction of a Dutch Renaissance painter's work in a common room. Read more.

alumni@wits.ac.za





In an attempt to get more voices from our alumni community, we've launched a "where are they now?" section in our communication. The Alumni Relations Office will briefly publish news on any Wits graduate who sends us their information. Kevin Brooks (BSc Eng 1980, PhD 1986) and Marjie Thorne (BA 1979) kick off the series and tell us what



success means to them. Read more. EXHIBITIONS

Artist **Teresa Kutala Firmino** (BA FA 2016, MA FA 2019) is part of the art collective Kutala Chopeto and hosted her first London show at Everard Read called Manifestation Oku Yongola ". Born in 1993 in Pomfret, to a Congolese father and Angolan mother Kutala Firmino grew up in the community of former 32 Battalion soldiers and their families. She says "we heal by

retelling our stories".







Alumna **Senzeni Marasela**(BA FA 1999) undertook to wear the same dress for six years and it left her wondering where

Read more about the three

Early in May 2021, Witsie Chris Soal (BA FA 2018) was the youngest artist to unveil a large-scale sculpture at the Nirox Foundation, as part of the Nirox Winter Sculpture Fair Exhibition *Margins of Error*. His work evokes images of dead coral, rough tree bark, eroded marble and concrete sections of various sizes. Soal's first international solo exhibition at the Montoro12



artists **here.** воокѕ

she belongs.



Jamil F Khan (MA 2018) won the Best Non-Fiction Biography category of the 2021 HSS Awards for Khamr: The Makings of a

Waterslams.



gallery in Brussels, Belgium, sold out before it opened.





Catch up on other Witsies with the writing

EVENTS



Read more.

UPCOMING EVENT - 25 JUNE 2021 We invite you to attend a global webinar with guest speaker **Greg Solomon** (BSc 1992, BA Hons 1993, BSc Hons 1993) who is CEO of McDonalds South Africa. Join us to hear his insights on leadership. Register here.

edge **here.**

Wits Business School alumnus Pavlo Phitidis (MBA 2001) and co-founder of Aurik shared a personal tale of his business journey in a **talk** titled "Reset Rebuild Reignite" on 27 May 2021. Phitidis specialises in the genesis of starting, investing and building businesses into assets of value. He offered a guide on the lessons learned and urged alumni to reach out: "We are growing a highly sophisticated service and product built in South Africa into foreign markets and we want to work with South Africans."





PLACES TO VISIT



Origins museum has reopened. Watch

Giving to Wits

► YouTube Wits Annual Fund







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