



# BLYTHE STUART LINGER

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## Education:

Secondary Education (2011) | National Senior Certificate | Winelands Academy

Certificates (2014) | Supervisory Management & Human Recourses | Imbisa Training

## Awards & Recognition:

Nominated in 2017 for the Arts and Culture Trust Young Impact Award for “individuals who have made a notable impact during the first five years of their professional career”

## Training:

Theatre sports/ improvising

Jazz vocals (1 year)

Classical Guitar (4 years)

Recorder, Flute, Clarinet (2 years)

## Language:

English - Fluent

## Special skills:

Guitar - Intermediate

Piano - Improvising. and chords

## Retail and Corporate Business

2012-2013	Road show script writer	Marketing assistant	KZN, Cape Town, Gauteng, George	Sugar Bay Kids holiday resort
2013-2014	Retail Area manager	(Awarded area manager of the year 2014)	Cape Town & Gauteng	Absolute Pets <small>PTY. LTD</small>

2015-2017	Theatre Production Manger	Manage Kaapse Storie underneath Basil Appolliss	Cape Town	EBR Productions
2016-Current	Director & Incorporator of an NPC	Producer of the Theatre Non Profit company	Cape Town	Hungry Minds Productions
2018-Current	Media management and Creative solutions through arts administration	Managing Director	World Wide	BSL Management
2017-Current	Media Management & PR	Shakespeare Schools Festival South Africa	South Africa	Edu Cape
2018-2018	Media Management & PR	Mike van Graan Productions	South Africa	MVG Productions
2019	Media management & PR	The Mother Tongue Project	South Africa	The Mother Tongue Project
2020-Current	Managing Director	Shakespeare Schools Festival South Africa	South Africa	Edu Cape

## Film

2020	Venus vs Modernity	Producer/ Line Producer	Work Wide	Lebogang Mashile
2020 - 2022	Begin (Feature Film)	Producer/ Line Producer	South Africa	Rehane Abrahams

## Theatre

2008	Show Time	Chorus Backing vocals	Little Theatre	Gavin Wright
2008	Life is Rock & Roll	Mike Lead, lead vocals	Little Theatre	Gavin Wright
2009	Pinocchio pantomime	Puppeteer's sidekick, Townsman 1 Supporting role, lead vocals, tap dance	Belville Civic Theatre	Gavin Wright
2010	Beauty and the Beast	Limier (Candelabra) Lead, lead vocals, tap dance	School tour/ Belville Civic Theatre	Fresh Theatre company
2011	West end to Broadway	Various lead roles Lead vocals, dance.	Belville Civic Theatre	Fresh Theatre company
2011	People are Living There. Athol Fugard	Lighting design, Set construction	Masque Theatre	Carnival of the hearts
2011	Romeo and Juliet	Set design team, set construction, stage hands	Artscape Theatre	Carnival of the hearts
2012	Le Moulin Rouge	Set design team	Artscape Theatre	Darryl Spijkers
2013	UCT T.I.E, Claremont high school	Sound operator	Claremont High school	UCT 2 <sup>nd</sup> years under Gordon Bilbrough
2015	People are Living There. Athol Fugard	Producer, Director and set designer	- National arts festival B2 Arena	Hungry minds productions

(July)  
- Cape Town Fringe  
festival  
(October)  
- Galloway theatre.  
(October)

2016	People beneath our feet	Producer and director	National arts festival	Hungry Minds Productions
2016	Fabulous Nothing	Producer and director	National arts festival	Hungry Minds Productions
2016	Out of Bounds by Rajesh Goopie	Producer	South African tour	Hungry Minds Productions
2017	Reparation	Producer	National Arts Festival Hanger (July)	Hungry Minds Productions
2017	Peter Pan	Assistant stage manager 1	Canal Walk Shopping centre	Abrahamse & Meyer Productions
2017, 2018 & 2019	AB Fab Drag show	Project co-ordinator & Assistant Director	Artscape Theatre	Suite Basil Productions
2017	Two by ten Hotel plays (Tennessee Williams)	Stage Manger	Vinyard Hotel (Newlands)	Abrahamse & Meyer Productions
2017	Hamlet & Sweet bird of youth	Production/ Company manager & Assistant to Producer	Province Town USA	Abrahamse & Meyer Productions
2017	Immortal Immersive theatre experience	Production/ Company manager	Castle of Good Hope	StandingO Productions
2018	Pepper Pig National tour	Production/Company & Stage manager	Various theatre in South Africa	EFX International
2018	Canal Walk children's show	TBC	Canal Walk Shopping Centre	Abrahamse & Meyer Productions
2018	MVG various productions	Production/Company & Stage Manager	Baxter Theatre, Sweden & National Arts Festival	Mike van Graan Productions
2018	Krotoa	SA Productions Manager & Rehearsal Stage Manager	Artscape	Volks opera huis & Artscape theatre center
2018	Cape Town International Film Market and Festival	Guest Co-ordinator	Variouse venues around Cape Town	Cape Town International Film Market and Festival
2018	Here to There	SA and Netherlands Production/Company manager	Artscape & various theatres in the Neatherlands	Afrovibes festival
2019	Krotoa Eva van die Kaap	SA Production manager	Artscape theatre center	Volks opera huis & Artscape theatre center
2019	Walk	Production manager	Woordfees	The Mother Tongue project
2019	Krotoa Eva van die Kaap	SA Production manager	Vryfees, Bloemfontein	Volks opera huis & Artscape theatre center
2019	Lalela Ulwandle	Production manager	Cape Town	Ocean hub, Neil Copen
2019	Venus vs. Modernity	Production manager	Gauteng & Neatherlands	Breaking boxes/ Afrovides
2019	Boom Zonder	Production & Tour manager	Gauteng & Cape	Afrovibes

Wortels

Town

foundation

## Film

2009	BBC The Runaway	Featured Role, drag club scene (1 episode)	Cape Town	David Richards and BBC
2012	History of the worlds, Age of industry	Featured plantation worker (1 episode)	Cape Town	Andrew Murry and BBC
2013	Mad Dogs	Featured kissing role (1 episode)	Cape Town	Sky 1
2015	We the brave	Lead kissing boy	Cape Town	Anova
2016	Cinderella If the shoe fits	Pianist	Cape Town	Disney

## Voice

2015-2016	The Promise	Character work and voice dubbing	Cape Town	Waterfront film studios
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## Personal Interests

I find myself most passionate about travel; art; design; theatre; architecture; travel; film, children's theatre; theatre in education; community development and communication. I am an extremely creative person who sets out goals and achieves them. I often find myself finding cheaper, faster, more interesting and efficient ways of tackling and achieving project goals which gives me an edge that most others don't have. It is in this way that I would like to approach the creative spheres as I grow my brand and personal life.

## Future Prospects

At this point in my life I am happy at the rate that I am growing in my personal and work life. I can only look forward to future opportunities to further grow my business and my personal foot print within film and theatre in South Africa and the world at large, as a leading Arts administrator, producer and arts programmer.

## References:

**(Please note that the feedback below has being edited in some cases to omit confidential personal information and/or to make sure the sentence reads correctly.)**

## Lebo Mashile (South African actress, writer and performance poet)

"Blythe Linger is a rare asset in the creative industries. He is highly skilled as a production manager and artist manager with strong capabilities as a producer and director in his own right. Blythe comes from a corporate background, and he brings this strategic expertise into the theatre, the sector where

his passion thrives. He has worked with some of the best in the business. He has a clear understanding of how to protect the creative process while still maximizing the bottom line.

Blythe is entirely self-taught, and his “Can Do” spirit becomes an asset when it is time to work. No job is too big or too small. He is protective of artists but also realistic about budgets and what is required to make a production viable. Blythe is also very skilled when it comes to the technical components of theatre production.

Working with a Blythe truly gives one the reassurance that the impossible is possible. You would be very fortunate to have him on your team. “

### **Basil Appollis (Writer and Director)**

“Blythe Linger started working as a Sound and Lighting assistant on Kaapse Stories, (a show I devised and directed for the tourism market five years ago) however, when a position of cast manager became available it was hard to ignore Blythe's administrative and critical skills within our company. Because of his passion and dedication, he filled this position with aplomb. His duties included managing and scheduling a large cast, write reports as well as drawing up contracts and scouting for new talent. Blythe has excellent skills as producer, administrator and left Kaapse Stories after three years when he started to spread his wings as producer/ director of the Young Minds theatre company. This company showcased several productions staged during 2015/16 at the National Arts Festival proving an exciting young voice joining the Arts and Culture's diverse community.” I still work with Blythe as a freelance contractor and most recently he joined me as production coordinator and assistant director for the critically acclaimed Absolutely Fabulously Drag extravaganza staged at Artscape for their Humanity and Woman's Festival 2017. Blythe once again proved to be an invaluable asset to the cast and company. His effectiveness in communication and admin went way beyond the tasks of director and organizer...coming up with ideas for marketing, liaising with administrators around cast contracts and accompanying cast to early morning television publicity shoots ensured a happy and grateful company. His excellent rapport with different and complex constituents within the organization and our clients. I wholeheartedly recommend Blythe for an award that would give recognition for his driving passion so sorely needed in our Arts environment.

### **Bob Meijs (Member of Board, Festival manager Afrovibes Festival)**

“...I think Blythe did a wonderful job organizing the tour of Boom Zonder Wortels in SA. His work was efficient, fast and up to date. I liked that very much as I have also seen otherwise in South Africa (unfortunately) ... at festivals and events... Anyway, it was good working with him and a next time I will certainly turn to him for organizing a tour of ours....”

### **Rob Murry (Former artist director of Cape Town Fringe)**

“I have known Blythe for the last few years and have been watching his development with great interest and support as he is truly going places as an arts manager and leader in the country, both of which are in short supply. As Guest Artistic Director of the CT Fringe in 2016, I had the chance to work directly with him through programming his work, "Out of Bounds". It was not only the quality of the work but the quality of producing that really caught my attention. His work is thorough, with a fine attention to detail, and a keen interest in making the theatrical interaction as pleasant and fruitful for performers and audiences alike. This is all shot through with a zest and passion for theatre that is remarkable. As an example, "Out of Bounds" was programmed at Delft Black Box as part of our Outbound schools and community's platform, and due to a miscommunication between ourselves and the theatre management, no audience appeared for the scheduled performance. Undeterred, Blythe mobilized his team and took to the streets of Delft and within about 30 mins had organized a capacity audience that gave the show a standing ovation. I look forward with great anticipation to see the heights he will aspire to and achieve.”

### **Fred Abrahamse (Director and Producer)**

“One of Blythe’s greatest assets is his ability to think ‘Out the Box’! We are in desperate need of re-invention and new innovative ideas in the performing arts - especially in promotion and marketing. The latter is an area in which Blythe excels and has boundless new and innovative ideas. He is a refreshing presence and energy on a team and is a good team player. If he continues to grow exponentially, as he has with Abrahamse and Meyer Productions over the last year, he could, in years to come, become a major force and influence in the Performing Arts Industry in South Africa.”

### **Ann Masina (Vocalist and actor)**

“Indeed, Blythe is beautiful, has a fantastic work ethic and has been unflappable working under pressure. He came in with very little time to work with, but he has led with conviction and calm which made everyone more secure and in the process. He has demonstrated that he is a specialist and an expert in what he does. He has made the whole tour possible through his immense depth of knowledge in logistics and organizational skills. I would choose to work with him more than any other person I have worked with in the past. Thanks to Blythe for holding the center with calm and power and expert skills.”

### **Kseniya filinova-bruton (Managing director of Shakespeare school’s festival)**

“I had great pleasure meeting Blythe at one of the HCI Foundation events. It was wonderful to learn that Blythe is involved in a very important field of promoting theatre productions and building new audiences. At the time, he was working with Fred Abrahamse on the production of Hamlet. We straight away shared a strong view on the importance of bringing new young audiences to see the play at the Theatre on the Bay, and most important to give less privileged schools an opportunity of this kind. A fundraising project was born within an hour of us meeting. The fundraising events took place at the V&A Waterfront, schools performed on the Nobel Statue Square over 4-day period. Funds raised were enough to bring number of school students to the production of Hamlet, which was a very unique experience for many. A lot of credit has to be given to Blythe for his initiative, quick thinking, creativity, meaningful enthusiasm and passion as well as his business approach to this project. Blythe is dedicated and committed to make positive impact on the arts in South Africa and beyond.”

### **Soli Philander (Actor, Writer and presenter)**

“I found Blythe to be a very conscientious, committed creative with an absolute passion for making the magic of the stage a reality. Frankly, without his contribution the Abfabdrag success-story might not have been such a remarkable one. I would not hesitate to recommend him for any production I was working on - a real must-have”

### **Ameera Conrad (Writer, Director, Actor and Activist)**

“Blythe Linger is a very prominent person in my career currently. Not only did he direct my professional debut as a performer at the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown (2016), but he has also subsequently gone on to produce my professional debut as a writer and director at this very same festival in July 2017 (Reparation on the Arena Festival). He has an incredible vision for what theatre in Cape Town and South Africa could and should be, and he is more than willing to help artists who want to contribute to the betterment of South African theatre. As a producer he has an incredible knack of helping the director to actualize their vision - for example for Reparation he and I spoke at length about the many different ways that we could achieve the final image of the play. He took his time explaining all of the different options available, what they all entailed, and how they would all look, so that we could make a collective decision that we both felt comfortable with. This is a rare trait, and I believe that Blythe would be a perfect candidate to receive the Impact Award, not only for what he and Hungry Minds have already done, but also for what they will do in the future.”

**Tankiso Mamabolo (Actor, song writer and vocalist)**

“Blythe Stuart Linger is one of the first producers I worked with who was genuinely concerned with making truthful art and ensuring that artists got the best out of their experiences. I knew he was meant for this industry when he gave his heart and soul to the quality of the work instead of the money aspect of it. He is proof that love for something requires time and sacrifice and he leads by example every single time. People who didn't study the performing arts are often underestimated by those who have. And then you meet someone like Blythe whose commitment and passion are something one could never learn at an institution. He is an asset to this industry and people must begin to take note. As an Artist I have recognized his potential and I'm eager to work with him again.”

**Claudia Benade (Audience member)**

I first met Blythe at Theatre on the Bay and my experience of him was one of the most pleasant I've had in a Theatre. He was so kind and polite and knowledgeable about the play I was seeing and the Theatre in general. He is enthusiastic about the Arts and his enthusiasm has encouraged me to attend more Theatrical presentations that I normally wouldn't have thought twice about going to. I have been fortunate enough to interact with him on other occasions and am always amazed that he is so tolerant of a silly old lady, and he ALWAYS does his best to assist with whatever my questions are. He needs to be rewarded for his dedication to Arts and Culture of this country.