

KHABONINA  
QUBEKA

DANNY  
KEOGH

HLUBI  
MBOYA

RONNIE  
NYAKALE

PABALLO  
KOZA

# Dora's Peace

A FILM BY KONSTANDINO KALARYTIS

ONE MAN BAND PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL FILM & VIDEO FOUNDATION THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY AND THE GAUTENG FILM COMMISSION WRITTEN BY KONSTANDINO KALARYTIS "DORA'S PEACE" KHABONINA QUBEKA DANNY KEOGH HLUBI MBOYA RONNIE NYAKALE PABALLO KOZA  
CASTING BY MEREN REDDY EDITED BY BENEL HONEYWALL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GEO BUCH EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JULIAN PIERONI MERLIN PERABE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KOSTA KALARYTIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS NICOL PAS HOFFMEYER  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CATHY CIOFFI VINCE CIOFFI ANDREW HEROLDI RISHENE SINGH JIM PETRAK SIMON BATCHELOR  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KOSTA KALARYTIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DOMI GUMBI GABRIELLA KALARYTIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KOSTA KALARYTIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ANDREW HEROLDI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KONSTANDINO KALARYTIS



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Production notes

ONE MAN BAND

In association with

THE NATIONAL FILM AND VIDEO FOUNDATION (NFVF)

GAUTENG FILM COMMISSION

and

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI)

present

a film by

KONSTANDINO KALARYTIS

# **DORA'S PEACE**

Starring

KHABONINA QUBEKA

DANNY KEOGH

HLUBI MBOYA

RONNIE NYAKALE

PABALLO KOZA

MOLEFI MONAISA

MEREN REDDY

DENEL HONEYBALL

YULE MASITENG

ISRAEL MAKOE

TINAH MNUMZAMA

Screenplay

ANDREW HEROLD

Story

KOSTA KALARYTIS

Director of Photography

NICOLAAS HOFMEYR

Editor

KOSTA KALARYTIS

Music Composer

GEO HOHN

Produced by

KOSTA KALARYTIS

DUMI GUMBI

GABRIELLA KALARYTIS

## SYNOPSIS

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### Short synopsis

Dora, a Hillbrow prostitute shields a gifted young boy from the violent clutches of organized crime. In the process she may discover aspects of her own lost humanity.

### Longer synopsis

Dora is a prostitute living out a precarious existence in Hillbrow. Now in her forties, she has seen it all. She has sold her body on the streets, has been locked-up and used by the cops, abused and beaten by customers. But it hasn't been all bad – when she was younger and her asking price was a great deal higher, she was in demand. Once she had been in a relationship with Stavro, a Greek bookie who she still sees occasionally. But now the years are catching up, and even she knows that the life she has known for so long will soon come to an end.

Into this solitary life comes twelve-year old Peace, a talented artist and the son of one of her neighbours, a druggie who's landed herself in a whole lot of trouble. Before long Dora will be forced to make a decision – protect Peace from the bad guys or let them win, effectively sentencing an innocent child to death.

Children have never really been a part of Dora's life. Her mother is dead, and she is estranged from her father, a rural Priest. There are aspects of her past that she does not really want to revisit. She values her independence, working without a pimp or boyfriend, and works hard at keeping herself safe. Her only ally appears to be Ravi, a Rasta-loving Indian taxi driver with a wacked-out driving style and a wicked sense of humour.

Stavro could be another ally, but trust is something that does not come easy to Dora. She knows the streets, understands how they work and how to make them work for her. This time, with a young boy on the run, she may not be up to the task. But then there is Peace, and in Dora he sees a protector, someone who would rather die than see anything bad happen to him.

What ensues will thrill and chill you, as Dora comes up against her hardest opponent yet – her own truest nature.

## Q&A: Kosta Kalarytis, Director

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### How did you get into film?

I started my career working as a cartoonist and an illustrator at The Mail and Guardian around 1990 when South Africa was going through a momentous period following the release of Nelson Mandela. I was always very passionate about film so I was always looking for ways to get a foothold in the film industry.

With the advent of new technology things changed dramatically and I saw an opportunity to make the leap from cartoons to animation. After a few years of doing animation I made the jump to editing where I specialised in producing promos and movie trailers for television. It was while working at SABC that I met a fellow colleague, Andrew Herold, who harboured ambitions as a screenwriter. Due to our shared passion for film, we decided to develop our first feature film and a few years later one of Andrew's screenplays attracted the interest of some actors in Hollywood. I spent about a year raising finance and then in 2003, without any experience, I jumped into the deep end and directed my first feature film, *The Company You Keep* starring Linden Ashby (*Resident Evil*), Corbin Bernsen (*L.A. Law*) and Maria Conchita Alonso (*Predator 2*).

### Where did the idea for the film originate?

After completing our first feature film, Andrew and I started developing our second, a physiological war drama set in the Congo. Because it would have been too costly to produce at the time we decided to write another film which we could contain and produce on a smaller budget.

That film was *Dora's Peace*, a crime drama set in Hillbrow. My influences for the movie were fairly eclectic but mostly I wanted to capture the grittiness of the films shot in New York in the 70's, movies like *Mean Streets* and *Gloria* which Andrew and I were both fans of.

### What is unique/most entertaining about the film?

The film deals with various underworld characters that inhabit this big African metropolis, specifically Hillbrow. Aspects of my own Greek culture are also incorporated, and I don't think this has been done before in film in South Africa.

**What were your thoughts on reading the script, and how would you interpret it?**

I worked closely with Andrew on the story and the most important aspect was the relationship between Dora and the young boy, Peace. If we could make that relationship work then we stood a good chance of making a good movie.

**What comments do you have on your role as the director of the film?**

Since I develop my own films and serve as producer, director and editor, I'm involved from the outset, from the script stage right through until the film's release. It is therefore extremely important for me to keep creative control of the project so that my vision of the film remains true throughout.

*Dora's Peace* was a very emotional experience for me and will forever remain personal due to the fact that both my parents passed away during pre-production. So it was with a certain sense of grief and loss that I began shooting the movie, especially since some of the film's themes mirrored my own relationship with my parents.

**How did you go about casting? What do the lead actors bring to the film?**

I spent a long time auditioning and casting. This was very important, because if you cast well then a big part of your work as a director is done before you walk onto set. I'm always looking for actors who will bring something different to the table and this is why I allow them space to explore their characters. Nothing is sacred for me so this opens up the possibility of discovering new insights the actors might bring to the story.

**Describe the visual identity of the film**

Coming from an artistic background, I have a very strong visual sense so I prepare well in advance with regards to production design, costumes and cinematography.

I create a sort of a visual bible that covers the whole look of the film so that all departments are in sync with what I'm trying to achieve. Being a film buff also helps, enabling me to draw

on ideas from other movies for inspiration, in the process creating a unique environment for my film. In the case of *Dora's Peace*, the religious icons and rich colours that are a central tenet of the Greek Orthodox Church inspired me immensely and I used this inspiration to form the basis of the visual look to compliment the grittiness of the atmosphere throughout the film.

### **Describe the making of the film**

Even though we contained the film in a few locations – primarily an apartment block in Hillbrow and a few surrounding areas in Johannesburg – it was a tough shoot, mainly because of the tight budget and short shooting schedule. Even so, Hillbrow provided a gritty background that was essential to the story and the characters that inhabit it, but this in turn brought about its own challenges because of the large crowds and high noise levels that are prevalent when you're shooting in the city.

### **What excites you about the film?**

After living with the project for so many years it feels good to let go and see how it will be received, so naturally I am excited to see how audiences will react to the film upon its release.

## **Q&A: ANDREW HEROLD – SCREEN WRITER**

### **How did you go about the writing of the script?**

Kosta and I worked on the story together, probably beginning around 2008. From early on the general feeling was to make a film about a strong South African woman. We worked on a detailed outline, which changed as we both added input to the skeleton of the story. We were not long into the process when the central character became a Hillbrow prostitute on her last legs work-wise, forced into a situation not of her own making, and in the process discovering hidden parts of herself.

**What was different about Dora as a character?**

Many prostitutes have families, even children, who they support by sending money home. In some cases their families do not even know what they do in order to bring home the bacon. I wanted Dora to be different – a woman with no children, who perhaps could not even have children – put into the situation of protecting a child. This gave Dora a real sense of purpose and began to define her as a character.

**How did the story change during the writing?**

Only a few weeks ago I was looking at the original outline I wrote for *Dora's Peace*, and it is infinitely different to the final script. The character of Dora was much the same, as was the young boy, but the characters around her were different. For instance, there was a journalist with a drinking problem who never found his way into the final version, and a woman who Dora worked for as a maid. I find that the physical process of writing a script can be extremely invigorating story-wise, and this was certainly the case with Dora. One character who appeared almost fully-formed and would not go away was Ravi, the taxi driver. Through draft after draft his character was developed further until he became Dora's foil, the one she leant on during difficult times.

**What happened to the script once you had written a version both you and Kosta were happy with?**

At some point The National Film and Video Foundation came on board, and an intensive period of script editing was entered into. Very late in the process, scenes involving Dora's backstory were added to the script by Kosta.

**What is next for you?**

I hope to publish another novel later on in the year, and I am in the process of writing another script that Kosta and I may work on together. Besides that I am developing other film projects I am eager to see realised in the near future.

## **Q&A: JOLANDI & NERINE PIENAAR – COSTUME DESIGN**

**What were the main considerations for you regarding wardrobe and fashion in the film?**

Focusing on the main character Dora, especially for her journey in the beginning of the film we originally went with a sexy, bold style but at the same time we wanted something that reflected her tough life. The director also emphasised the colour red for this character and this was carried out throughout the film until she comes into contact with the character of Peace who softens her as the story unfolds so we introduced a softer pastel look to her wardrobe to symbolise this.

With regards to the young boy Peace, his wardrobe is very plain and muted, symbolising his difficult childhood and the emptiness that he feels due to his mom being a drug addict who neglects him.

For the villain Vusi, played by Ronnie Kyakale, we made his wardrobe more aggressive and stylish since he has a dominating character with a good eye for fashion, but also emphasising that he is in control. His cohort Themba however, was more of a passive character so we gave him a plain conservative look with less toned colors

In terms of the drug addict Connie, played by Hlubi Mboya, she is someone who is not focused on her wardrobe but rather her next 'fix', so she was dressed in very minimal clothing especially since in the film she is mostly house-bound.

With regards to the older character, the Greek bookie Stavro, we decided to dress him up mostly in suits but because this character is not really upmarket (even though he tries to be) and spends much of his time in smoky gambling joints, it was important that his suits didn't fit him well.

### **What did you enjoy the most about this process?**

We fell in love with the first reading of the script, and it was lovely to realise the director's vision, especially someone like Kosta who knew exactly what he wanted when it came to the visual look of the film.

## **BIOGRAPHIES – CAST**

### **KHABONINA QUBEKA (DORA)**

With leading television roles such as *Muvhango*, *The Lab*, *The Wild* and *Rhythm City*, it is clear why Khabonina is a SAFTA and Naledi award-nominated actress.

Her first TV role was as the controversial Doobsie on SABC 2's *Muvhango* and then she quickly followed up with more roles in *The Mating Game* and *Erfsondes*.

She also acted in the successful theatre production *The Table* and this year appears as the lead in the feature film *Dora's Peace*, directed by Kosta Kalarytis.

Currently she is starring as Nina Zamdela in the popular soapie *Isidingo* on SABC 3.

Aside from her television and feature film work, she is also a dancer, presenter and musician.

### **DANNY KEOGH (STAVRO)**

Danny Keogh is a veteran actor with strong ties to the theatre. A native of South Africa born in Uganda, Danny's theatrical career earned him numerous award nominations. His screen debut came in 1977, and since then he has had an extensive career spanning over three decades. His most notable screen credits include the Clint Eastwood-directed *Invictus* (2009) and *Starship Troopers 3: Marauder* (2008). Notable television appearances include *The Lost Future* (2010), *The Sinking of Laconia* (2011) and *Labyrinth* (2012).

### **HLUBI MBOYA (CONNIE)**

Hlubi is probably best known for her role as Nandipha in the successful SABC 3 soapie *Isidingo*. Not only did this role make her an instant household name in South Africa, but has also enabled her to travel throughout Africa as an HIV / AIDS ambassador. Hlubi has also appeared on the covers of South Africa's foremost magazines, especially when she was selected to be the first black woman (non-model) to grace the cover of *Elle* magazine. Hlubi has also appeared in a number of local and international feature films, including *How To Steal 2 Million*, *Death Race 3*, *iNumber Number* and most recently, *Dora's Peace*. She is currently involved as a Jeep Team athlete and is the co-host of *Future CEO's* on CliffCentral.COM

### **RONNIE NYAKALE (VUSI)**

Ronnie is a South African actor best known for his award-winning role as gangster Papa Action in the first season of the critically acclaimed drama series *Yizo Yizo*. He has appeared in various other television roles such as *Rhythm City*, *eKasi* and in the Mzansi Magic miniseries *Naledi*. Aside from television he has also appeared in various feature films including *Jerusalema*, *Blood Diamond* and *Machine Gun Preacher*. He currently stars in the popular television soapie *Generations: The Legacy*.

### **PABALLO KOZA (PEACE)**

Paballo is only 12 years old but is surely the envy of many established actors due to his busy work schedule, which kicked off at the age of five.

He features in the SABC2 drama series *Thola*, currently in its second season, and has shot over 27 commercials as well as the short film *The Blanket*. Paballo says that acting alongside Khabonina Qubeka, Hlubi Mboya and Nthathi Moshesh in *Dora's Peace* has been the highlight of his career so far.

Paballo speaks passionately about his maternal grandmother, Seipati Shabiso, who died two years ago. He says she took it upon herself to enrol him in an acting agency at the age of five. "I'm grateful to her for giving me the opportunity to pursue my dream. If it was not for her I would not be talking to you right now."

The Grade 6 Edenglen Primary School pupil remembers vividly his first *Mr Muscle* commercial back in 2007 when he was five. Despite his busy schedule, Paballo attends

normal school and his mother says that if filming happens during school hours, the production companies hiring him will also hire a tutor on set for him to keep up with his school work. "Schooling is a priority. In order for him to participate in his acting, he has to perform well at school and he is a brilliant child," she says.

## **BIOGRAPHIES – CREW**

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### **KOSTA KALARYTIS – PRODUCER / DIRECTOR / EDITOR**

Kosta began his career as a cartoonist and illustrator working for The Mail & Guardian and other numerous South African publications. His passion for film led to a stint in the animation and television industry where he also specialized in producing promos and movie trailers. Under his production company One Man Band he directed his first international feature film, *The Company You Keep* in 2003 which starred Linden Ashby (*Resident Evil*), Corbin Bernsen (*L.A. Law*) and Maria Conchita Alonso (*Predator 2*). In 2005 he produced and edited the documentary, *Mules*, a hard hitting expose on drug mules in South Africa and then spent the following years editing numerous feature films. In 2015 he produced, directed and edited his second feature film *Dora's Peace*, which will be released in cinemas in August 2016. He currently has two feature films in development.

### **DUMI GUMBI – PRODUCER**

Dumi is an award-winning independent producer and consultant in the creative media space, focusing on film, television and consumer marketing. His first feature film *Gog'Helen* premiered at the Durban International Film Festival's Main Competition in 2012. The film had its American premiere at the Pan-African Film Festival (PAFF) in 2013 and was nominated in two categories in the 2014 SAFTAs. Along with Meerkat Media, Dumi worked on the first isiZulu animated kids' television show for M-Net, *Zim Zim*. He has worked with Kwanza Communications for FNB's Consumer Education department, and he produced animation for the Nedgroup. He has produced several corporate DVDs for Goba, Transnet and the Water Research Council.

He has produced several documentary films for the SABC, including *My Big Fat Afrikaner Wedding* and *Who Killed Johannes Kerkorrel?*. Dumi also produced the SAFTA award-winning mini-series *Ubizo: The Calling* which won five South African Film and Television Awards (SAFTAS).

He produced the ground-breaking SAFTA award-winning 3D, CGI animation short film series, *Backyard Shorts* in 2009. Dumi, who studied economics and filmmaking in Boston, is a member of the international entrepreneur programme, Endeavor.

### **GABY MARIOLA - PRODUCER**

Gaby has been involved in bookkeeping for most of her career and due to her knowledge in that field was asked to assist on *Dora's Peace* during production. Amongst her production accounting duties on that film, she also assisted on set in various departments and was pivotal in raising funds for the production at critical moments. This is her first feature film as a producer and she is currently developing two new feature films together with her husband director Kosta Kalarytis.

### **ANDREW HEROLD – SCREENWRITER**

Andrew is a South African writer. Born in London, England, he had early dreams of pop music stardom before acquiring ownership of a production company in Zambia. As a cameraman and soundman he shot news film for ITN and Visnews, covering stories leading up to Zimbabwean independence in 1980, and also directed commercials and documentaries. He started working as a promo producer for SABC in 1995, which is where he met Kosta Kalarytis. Through their mutual love for movies they developed several projects together, culminating in *The Company You Keep* (2003), a feature film starring Corbin Bernsen and Maria Conchita Alonso. In early 2013 he published his first novel *Gabriel's Apology*, and in 2014 directed from his own original screenplay *Working for Willy*, a South African comedy set on the fringes of the porn industry. *Dora's Peace* will be his third completed feature as a screenwriter. He has many projects in development.

### **NICOLAAS HOFMEYR – DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY**

A long time ago Nic Hofmeyr directed some seminal music videos for South African artistes including Mango Groove, Lucky Dube, Bright Blue and Prophets of the City.

At the same time he got into the then-vibrant world of documentary film making, in the process witnessing many of the tumultuous events that led to South Africa's transition to democracy in 1994. He went on to direct and/or photograph many documentaries around the African continent.

Today he's made the move to fiction filmmaking as a Director of Photography, shooting the feature films *Jerusalema*, *Cuckold*, *Dora's Peace* and the television dramas *Room 9*, *Jamillah & Aladdin*. Keeping up with his love of the documentary form, Nic photographed *Miner's Shot Down*, which won the Emmy award for Best Documentary in 2015.

### **GEO HOEHN – COMPOSER**

Geo is a South African born German composer for film and television. He is an expert in composition, orchestral arrangements and film music. He is pursuing the cinematic edge in both composition and musical sound track design.

Having many years of experience in sound engineering, his methodology and approach aims at integrating his musical scores into a seamless manner with sound design. All of these factors give his film music the illusive "cinematic" sound that many producers and directors seek. In his formative years he was exposed to many different cultures that inspired his musical inclinations and passions, receiving his initial musical training in Germany.

He is currently engaged as musical chair for AFDA film school in Johannesburg for film scoring and writes for music libraries in his free time. Some of his credits include *Lion Country*, *Angel of the Skies*, *Inescapable*, *Die Laaste Tango*, *Die Ballade van Robbie de Wee*, *Verskietende Ster*, *Last Broken Darkness* and *Dora's Peace*.

## **JOLANDI & NERINE PIENAAR – WARDROBE**

With a proud African origin and an international essence that is all her own, Nerine has carved a solid standing for herself in the film, advertising & entertainment industries. Nerine and her wardrobe team are renowned for their wit and talent in creating glamour with a strong focus on individuality, and they have set up *The Wardrobe Studio Jhb* in Bordeaux Drive, Johannesburg. She has won two SAFTA awards and has been nominated for others. Nerine also serves the local film industry in Jozi with her diverse wardrobe studio hiring facility .

## **CREDITS**

Dora	KHABONINA QUBEKA
Stavro	DANNY KEOGH
Connie	HLUBI MBOYA
Vusi	RONNIE NYAKALE
Peace	PABALLO KOZA
Themba	MOLEFI MONAISA
Ravi	MEREN REDDY
Kelly	DENEL HONEYBALL
Father Khumalo	YULE MASITENG
Shakes	ISRAEL MAKOE
Dora's mom	TINA MZUMZAMA
Young Dora	BLESSED BOHOMANE
Young Boy	OMO KONDILE
Vagrant Boy #1	SEBELETHU BONKOLO
Vagrant Boy #2	OMOLEMO BOKOLO
Cop #1	ONE TIME
Cop #2	DOCTOR MAKOMBOTHI

Director	Konstandino Kalarytis
Producers	Kosta Kalarytis Dumi Gumbi Gaby Kalarytis
Screenplay	Andrew Herold
Story	Kosta Kalarytis
Production Manager	Christa Greyling
Production Coordinator	Kamagelo Aphane
Assistant Director	Wandile Magadla
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Director	Lucky Masiba
Stunts	4FX and Stunts David Mahlangu Leon Breytenbach Vusi Simela Mdu Mahlangu Jenn Robinson
Precision Driver	Thobile Mahlangu
Stunt Driver	Gareth Robinson
Camera Assistant	Sanele Mgobhoz

Focus Puller	Nazi Geza Brendan Fish Bheki Ntshangase
Audio Post Facility	Sound Surfers Audio Post Sound and Motion Studios
Sound Design	Jim Petrak James Olivier
Dialogue Editor	Andrea Rusch
Sound Effects Editors	Alison Stevens Nick Stephens Renier van Niekerk Alex Saacks
Foley Artist	Chris Piggins
Foley Recordist	Renier van Niekerk
Assistant Re-recording Mixer	Richard West
Sound Re-recording Mixer	Jim Petrak
Production Sound	Dave Hawkins
Boom Swinger	Darryl Hay
2 <sup>nd</sup> Unit Additional Photography	Clive Lawrie
Make-up & Hair	Beverly House
Make-up Assistant	Julia Mnyamezeli
2 <sup>nd</sup> Make-up Assistant	Wendy Klassen
Casting	Dineo Mabena



Art Department Crew	Marinda Richter Vicky Beyers Joseph Hitula Isak Simons
Armourers	Kevin Mackrory Les van Blerk Tim Lilshaw
Gaffer	Dallas Ncala Thami Xhosa Righteous Lesiba
Assistant Gaffer	Ardwell Dube
Best Boy Grip	Alpheus Lesiba Manaka
Grips Assistant	Emmanuel Tlhakanye
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grips Assistant	Solly Ngwenya
Unit	Nthuthuzelo Mnenso
Unit Assist	Wanda Makhawula
Continuity	Linda Malinda
Production Accountant	Morne Schutte Stevie Minnaar
Bookkeeper	Gabriella Kalarytis

D.I.T	Lee Ryan
Special Effects	Gerhard van der Heever
PA Cast / Runner	Vusi Masinda Vincent Nampaa Wilfred Sebobane Thabo Ernest Nkgabane
Driver	Robert Wright
2 <sup>nd</sup> Unit	
Focus Puller	Bheki Ntshangase
Assistant Director	Twiggy Matiwane
Production Co-ordinator	Maria Constandinides
Gaffer	Thami Xhosa Righteous Lesiba
Best Boy Grip	Zwelonke Shooz Mafanya
Sound	Leon Rivas
Boom Swinger	Jason Rivas
Make Up & Hair	Thandi Zwane
Wardrobe	Christina Elgie
Stills Photographer	Nicolas van der Merwe

EPK / Trailer	Kosta Kalarytis
Child Minder	Michele du Toit
Video Post Production Facilities	One Man Band
Translator	Musawenkosi Dill Ncube
Driver	Kimpton Gumbo
Music Video on TV	Song Title: Oh My Artist: Ghetto Prophecy
Movie Playing on TV	The Company You Keep Copyright © One Man Band (2003)

Filmed on location in the Republic of South Africa

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