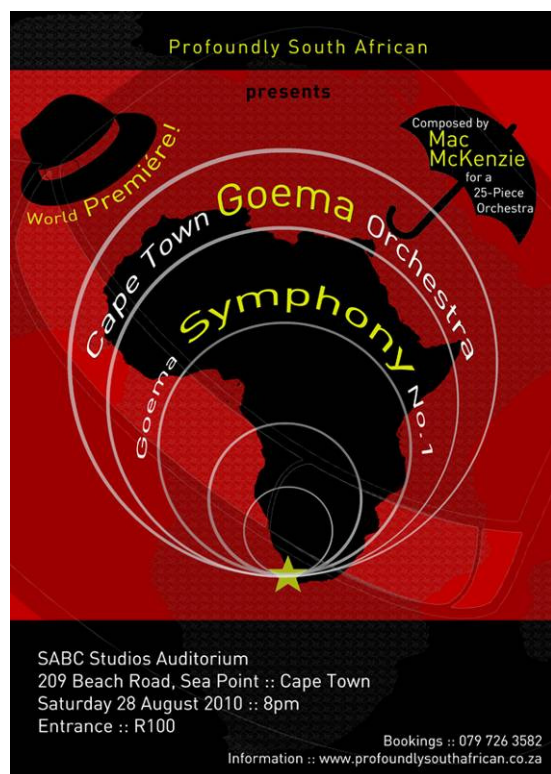


## MEDIA RELEASE

### GOEMA GOES TO UNIVERSITY



The Cape Town Goema Orchestra is a 25-piece Mac McKenzie ensemble featuring strings and brass as well as mouth bows, marimbas and mbiras. Mac's composition "Goema Symphony No. 1" will be performed at SABC Studios Auditorium on Saturday 28 August 2010 at 8pm. **Promo Video:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dq-e65r2HU>

Mac McKenzie has always pushed the boundaries of Goema, the rhythmic groove at the heart of Cape Town's carnival culture. During the 80s, he injected defiance into the idiom with The Geniunes, creating lightning-speed Rock arrangements and the resistance anthem "Struggle." In 2002, Mac guided Goema into a more refined arena with The Goema Captains of Cape Town, cloaking the Cape vibe in Cool Jazz. Now Mac's back, with an orchestra to boot, steering Goema into Classical territory.

### MAC'S BACK

The musical journey of Mac McKenzie is a diverse string of manifestations that spans a professional career of over twenty-five years. Despite surface differences, an indispensable denominator binds the brash Punk riffs of The Genuines in 1986 to the sultry violin lines of The Cape Town Composers' Workshop showcase in 2009. In a word, it's Goema.

Mac has long used this term to evoke the carnivalesque elements that inform his compositions. While Goema summons images of fedora hats and umbrellas and carries a beat that can be measured and identified, it resists our dogmatic impulses to classify. Inasmuch as it elicits a variety of definitions from Cape Town's music community and commentators, Goema is essentially characterised by openness to possibility.

Goema's origins reveal an authentic brand of collective culture hinged on our profoundly South African recipe of diversity. Pigeonholed by Apartheid, it evolved on the Cape Town fringe and has been shaped as much by the Mother City itself as the contributions of many extraordinary individuals. The Cape Town Goema Orchestra is another step in reclaiming our common investment in Goema and sharing it with the rest of the world. "Goema Symphony No. 1" is a composition that expands Goema's potential.

**More Information:** [www.profoundlysouthafrican.co.za](http://www.profoundlysouthafrican.co.za)

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