

Dear Audience,

I met Big Boy in 2018 when we started the process of Hillbrowfication. Back then he was 19 years old. He was already a wonderful dancer, hungry for learning and for developing his movement language to create his own choreographic works.

I saw him through the years grow and expand. He was choreographing for directors he had studied with and dancing with different collectives he founded. He found his own space to teach and work at the Drill Hall in Johannesburg. His classes were full. His enthusiasm and joy for dance was contagious to all the participants.

On tour, he would teach choreographies to the youngsters in the cast and keep a vigilant eye on them full of care.

Big Boy was ambitious, proud and was there to conquer the world. He was able to make a living from dance and became the supporting system of his family. After his death, he left a young partner, a 9-month-old son and his mother who he helped with in the household as well. His life was stolen on broad day light on May 26 when he tragically became the victim of a crossfire. A violence that had no place in his life but is a consequence of the inequality and violence the country has lived for centuries trough colonialism and apartheid. His life had impacted many with his infectious energy.

Simiso said: "Big Boy always inspired me", Blessing said: "He was the most energetic and lovely person". "Dance is life and life is dance and you were the living proof of that" said Tsepang; Zi wrote: "Big Boy's name and presence echoed greatness, hope and a light to many. His untimely passing feels like a part of me was ripped away." Tiseto: "Ncamunca! We will always miss and love you Biggy." Linda Mike: "Till today our tears are not yet dry. Rest in Power. Your spirit will always live with us"

I felt very similar to Nompilo who wrote:

"Big Boy was the kindest, most respectful guy I have ever met. He never looked down on anyone and he was always willing to help. I haven't healed from his passing, and I don't think I ever will. It pains me that a harmless guy like him had to die such brutal death with no justice served. I miss you every day. We the cast have this small hope in our hearts that one day you will just walk into the rehearsal room with your beautiful smile and this nightmare will be over".

Constanza Macras & DorkyPark, Lisi Estaras, Gerard Bester (who produced the show in the Hillbrow theatre), Roman Handt, the team of *Hillbrowfication* and me want to honour his life and memory with these performances that will be full of his energy and love legacy.

An account was set up to help Big Boy's family, partner, and child. Please scan the QR code to send a donation via Paypal.



For further questions contact us: production@dorkypark.org