



PRESS RELEASE

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BLACK UMFOLOSI OPEN KING'S LYNN FESTIVAL'S AUTUMN SERIES OF EVENTS

The world famous acapella and dance group, Black Umfolosi, return to **St George's Guildhall** on **Friday 30th September**, the first in a series of events King's Lynn Festival present this Autumn. With an energy driven and completely engaging performance, mixing a gentleness of spirit in song with an exuberance in dance, audiences will enjoy a vibrant and captivating show.

Black Umfolosi's trademark harmonies mixed with intricate rhythms, clicking and clapping are highlighted during their brilliantly choreographed performance with a full range of movements from subtle to pulsating stomping and leaping!

Specialising in imbube music, gumboot dance and Zulu dance, Black Umfolosi has toured extensively nationally and internationally. In 1994 they had the privilege of performing to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during the Commonwealth Games, where group member Thomeki Dube was honoured to shake her hand, still in his stage clothes of hard hat and overalls. Thomeki shared the following message;

"I want to say Her Royal Majesty was the best of the best people that I ever dreamed to shake hands or meet. She told me how she enjoyed watching our gumboot dance and said congratulations, you are amongst the most amazing performers throughout the Commonwealth. It was a moment I will remember forever. As Black Umfolosi we are sad and cry together with the British people on their bereavement"

Alongside the performance members of Black Umfolosi will also visit **Nelson Academy** in Downham Market on Friday 30th September to lead workshops in singing and dancing with the pupils.

Tickets for the performance at St George's Guildhall on Friday 30th September, 7.30pm cost **£16 (under 25's 50% off)** and are available via www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk or via the **Corn Exchange box office on 01553 764864**.

King's Lynn Festivals autumn series of events includes talks, film and the ever-popular Coffee Concerts. For full details visit www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk

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Notes to editors

For interviews and more information please contact Claire Bowdler, Marketing Manager – claire@kingslynnfestival.org.uk / 07801 538053

A photo-call can be arranged at the schools' workshop at Nelson Academy. Please call Claire on 07801 538053 to arrange.

About

King's Lynn Festival was founded in 1951 and continues to provide high-quality performances of classical music, recitals, choral performances, jazz, folk, talks, walks, exhibitions and films. The Festival features internationally renowned performers and uses beautiful historic venues around the town, including England's largest surviving Medieval Guildhall. The Festival's ongoing success has helped establish King's Lynn as a Festival Town, and is especially known for bringing new compositions to audiences as part of its broad programme of music and arts.