

# **ADDRESS BY MEC FOR SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE DIPUO LETSATSI DUBA AT THE MAPUNGUBWE MEDIA LAUNCH.**

29 October 2012.

## **Program Director**

Councillor Mapoulo-Executive Mayor of Capricorn District.

Councillors

The Heads of Departments

Heads of our parastatals

Senior Management of Departments

Our partners

The Media

Friends and Colleagues

Hundreds of years ago, a sophisticated city which went beyond all imagination was initiated on the confluence of the Shashe and the Limpopo River. The year was about 1220 when the Vhatwanamba and other tribes under the leadership of their chief put up a sophisticated trading centre that today is well known as Mapungubwe.

In 1932 when the boers discovered the site, they could not believe it, and decided to hide everything at the University of Pretoria. They never thought that Africans had the sophistication to trade with China, East Africa, Egypt, and India.

When UNESCO declared the place as a World Heritage site in July 2003, they described Mapungubwe as the centre of the largest kingdom in the sub-continent of Africa before it was abandoned in the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

Program Director, for the past eight(8) years the Limpopo Government sought to celebrate our diversity and create a social cohesion through music and arts, thus the Melting Pot festivals. Of course the Melting Pot melted away over the years and Mapungubwe Arts and Culture Festivals was born.

You will see in the program that we starting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December and that's were we will show the world that colour blocking actually started in Limpopo. This is where you will see us in our yellows, reds, whites, greens and you name them. This year, we decided that to address the challenge of artists who are not always billed in the show, we give new artists a chance. That is why all artists who performed last year will not perform this year.

Program Director, the above statement would include all local artists. It is not practical to include all and we do not have all the money in the world. Despite all that you are going to enjoy. We are going to keep you on your toes from 4-8 December, and you will go to Mangaung thinking differently.

I wish to thank all our partners who are going to make this memorable time long enough to forget. We are talking amongst others our Media partners, the SABC, the Black leopard Football Club, the MTN, Trade Investment Limpopo, Tourism, Polokwane Municipality,Capricorn District Municipality and many others.

If music be the food of love, then play on.

I Thank you.

