

Known Associates Entertainment & Mustard Seed Entertainment Present

DRUG MULE DIARIES

Tales of South
African women
who traffic drugs

4 x 60' episodes

A Known Associates Entertainment / Mustard Seed Entertainment Production
Executive Producers: Joel Phiri, Tshepiso Sello & Nombulelo Maliza
Produced by: Dan Jawitz; Written by Eddie Edwards
Development Producer: Vanessa Jansen





Drug Mule Diaries

Tales of South African women who traffic drugs

South African women from different backgrounds who feel powerless to fix their lives succumb to the lure of quick money, making desperate decisions that lead to catastrophes of unimaginable proportions.

Synopsis:

There's something immensely intriguing about true crime stories: we're aware that they are tales of immense human tragedy, but we just can't look away. We get vicarious pleasure looking into the dark side of life while comfortable in the safety of our homes. From television prison dramas like **Orange is the New Black** which have gained worldwide acclaim, to the burgeoning amount of factual series such as **Banged up Abroad**: we are captivated by these stories, seen from the point of view of the prisoner. "DRUG MULE DIARIES" leverages this intrigue, focusing on South African women caught up in the web of international drug smuggling while shedding light on the criminals that target their vulnerabilities.

South Africa has become the 'perfect storm' for incubating a thriving drug trade: geographically it is at the center of many drug-smuggling routes across the continents from East to West and vice versa; it has porous borders; a fragile economy with high unemployment and poverty, rampant corruption and its own growing market for drugs, and has thus it has seen a massive rise in custom seizures of hard drugs bound for local and international destinations. Sadly, very few of the top syndicate members are arrested, while hundreds of drug mules are thrown into prison every year. Amongst these, there is a growing number of women, few of whom are beneficiaries of the immense illicit wealth that the drug trade supports. All these women admit their guilt, but evidence suggests that some of them may be the victims of human trafficking, complicating the picture.

Each episode of 'DRUG MULE DIARIES' tells the tale of three South African women who, through innocence, foolhardiness, plain bad luck, or criminal intent, have been caught smuggling drugs. Focusing on a different destination country in each episode, we meet our characters at various stages of their journey - from innocent citizen to jailbird to the challenges of life after their jail terms. This series explores this complex underworld, etching the reality of how women are lured and manipulated into this vicious, sometimes fatal, web.

GENRE:	DOCUMENTARY / REALITY
DURATION:	4 X 1HR
SERIES LANGUAGE:	ENGLISH, SOUTH AFRICAN LANGUAGES
PRODUCERS:	DAN JAWITZ, JOEL PHIRI & TSHEPISO SELLO
CO-PRODUCER:	NOMBULELO MALIZA – MUSTARD SEED ENTERTAINMENT
DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER:	VANESSA JANSEN
PROJECT STATUS:	IN DEVELOPMENT

For more information on this project contact: Dan Jawitz dan@kaentertainment.co.za