

Soweto!

Movement of The People

13 X 60'

"Our original plan was just to get to Orlando West, pledge our solidarity and sing Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika. Then we thought we would have made our point and we would go back home. No-one envisaged a process that would go beyond June 16th. Little did we expect the kind of reaction that we got from the police on that day."

Murphy Morobe, one of the march organizers on June 16th, 1976

SYNOPSIS:

Soweto! is a story about youth activism, self-actualization, citizen activation and the struggle of the youth to find their place and voice in societies that often ignore and undermine them. Taking its inspiration from the 1976 Soweto youth uprising that led to South Africa's townships becoming ungovernable, this series resonates with youth movements for social change across the world in modern times; from the cries of young Americans for a gun-free society, to the activism of Serbian youth which contributed the downfall Slobodan Milosevic, to the social and political wild-fire of the Arab Spring.

Drawing its inspiration from powerful dramatic social narratives like David Simon's The Wire, Soweto! aims to be a ground-breaking series that brings to life Soweto of the seventies; it's youth leaders who died at the barricades, those who continued to live in hiding under the Apartheid government, and those forced into exile and labelled terrorists, who today have become South Africa's leaders.

When the youth of Soweto began their protest on the morning of June 16th marching from Orlando High School to Orlando Stadium on Soweto, they were acting not only against the Apartheid system; they were rising against the perceived failure of their parents to bring this unjust system to order. Driven by their youthful aspirations and dreams of a better future they rebelled against a brutally repressive government leading to a violent uprising that torched the country for decades to come and eventually led to the demise of the Apartheid government. From the Soweto uprisings in 1976, through the repressive 80's to the release of Nelson Mandela in 1991, SOWETO will provide riveting television for audiences looking for something different.

GENRE:	DRAMA
DURATION:	13 X 1HR
SERIES LANGUAGE:	SOUTH AFRICAN LANGUAGES
PRODUCERS:	DAN JAWITZ, JOEL PHIRI & TSHEPISO SELLO
CO-PRODUCER:	REBECCA RIVO
DIRECTOR:	TBC
WRITERS:	TBC
BUDGET:	TBC
PROJECT STATUS:	IN DEVELOPMENT

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