



Photo credit: Ojwook (KE)

PILANI BUBU (South Africa)

Indelible Singer-songwriter, TV presenter; Pilani Bubu is never without a lived experience etched into her heart and mind in a highly expressive musical journey. She tells authentic stories of inspiration, identity, and influence. She's a creative entrepreneur, a multifarious artist, an intentional performer with a unique voice and cohesive global sound she likes to call jazzy folk soul.

Through her own independent label and publishing company Bupila Publishing she has released: 'Journey of a Heart' - EP (2012) produced by the soulful RJ Benjamin, 'Warrior of Light' (2016) co-produced and arranged by veteran jazz guitarist: Luke Van Der Merwe, and Folklore - Chapter 1 (2019) co-produced with South African master guitarist Billy Monama and bassist Bheka Mthethwa whose love and command for South African guitar styles: 'mbaqanga' and 'Isicathamiya' played a huge role in fulfilling Pilani Bubu's vision for the project. Folklore - Chapter 1, was awarded the Best African Adult Contemporary Album at the 26th edition of the South African Music Awards (SAMA26).

In her latest album: Folklore, Pilani seeks to use music as a platform to capture and preserve our heritage and culture, with this she has founded the Folklore Community. Her intention with this culture and heritage project is a lifelong commitment to document, preserve and share our culture and Heritage for the next generation. Folklore, by definition, is the undocumented beliefs, customs, tales, proverbs, jokes and various art forms passed down through generations by word of mouth. By building the Folklore community, she aims to provide a platform for holders of indigenous knowledge systems to share their work and document it in two key event themes: Folklore for Kids and Folklore Fireside for an older audience. by interweaving poetic interludes and spoken word into the music.

Pilani has received strong media coverage at home in South Africa and across the continent. Her radio singles 'Miss Understood' from Journey of a Heart (2012) was playlist on 45 radio stations in South Africa, her second radio single 'Sweet Love' from Warrior of Light (2016), was playlisted 47 Radio Stations and 'Boom Che' from the album Folklore-Chapter 1 - 46 Radio stations in 2018.

In the last 10 years as an emerging artist, she's performed her music at music venues and festivals both locally and globally: the Drum Beat Festival (SA), Grahamstown National Arts Festival (SA), Fete De La Musique (SA), Appetite Festival (SA), and Stellenbosch Wine Festival (SA), Women Rising Festival (Nigeria), Thursday Night Live (Kenya), Jazz at Congo Square Festival, Irvin Mayfield's Jazz 'Playhouse with Irvin Mayfield, Café Istanbul with Jon Batiste (New Orleans, United States,) and her more recent highlights: Live In Accra Jazz Festival (Ghana), Jazz on The Roof Top (Romania), Ploiesti Jazz Festival (Romania), Musique Metisse Festival in Angouleme (France) and relaunching her album Folklore Chapter 1 in France with a successful PR run and showcase in May 2022.

As a TV presenter, TV shows include: 'Out And About' on One Gospel channel on DStv channel 331 and currently: 'Design For You' on The Home Channel, DStv channel 176; now in Season 8, aired on TV and VOD in 10 African Countries, Africa TV Channel, in East and Western Europe - Slovenia TV, the Nations Carrier South African Airways as well as Amazon Prime globally.

Recent Highlights licensing and collaborating with Maya Angelou's estate Caged Bird Legacy LLC, turning stanza to lyric with her song Hopes Springing High, Still I Rise, a musical interpretation of Maya's poem Still I Rise. Supported and funded by the SAMRO Foundation, SAMPRA, Sheer Publishing and Downtown Publishers in the United States.

Her company Bupila has also been nominated for two Loeries awards, Africa and Middle East's biggest advertising award, for her strategic and creative work on a Human Rights Campaign for the Nelson Mandela Foundation and was awarded a Loeries Bronze trophy for the Design Mixed Media Campaign.

Pilani Bubu is a niche artist, with an emerging success story of passion and persistence bubbly under. From the beginning of her musical career, with her genre-fluid perspective, Pilani has managed impress radio compilers, TV producers and festival directors with her music and stage presence.

What the press has to say:

"Multifaceted artist Pilani Bubu is ...successful and purely authentic... She has mastered the art of juggling time and finances." – Star Newspaper (South Africa)

"An act that enthralled audiences with her soothing melodies, exceptional vocals and message-laden repertoire is Singer-songwriter from South Africa...she shines through with a poignant set of songs with pure grit and talent which inspired head popping and feet tapping from the receptive audience...a feel-good singer with conscious and meaningful lyrics" - Daily Graphic Newspaper (Ghana).

WATCH:

Boom Che – Pilani Bubu (Official Music Video) https://youtu.be/o_a-od8bk14
Qamata - Pilani Bubu (Official Music Video) <https://youtu.be/MienUxpG8mo>
Qongqothwane - Pilani Bubu (Music Video) <https://youtu.be/MxZxfRqzU4>
Baile - Acoustic - Ft Kyei Rocks https://youtu.be/oJ_SQN1XgXE
Makoti - Pilani Bubu (Trio) <https://youtu.be/sbpELcQrMmc>
Qongqothwane Medley – Pilani Bub Duet <https://youtu.be/j5TyhqTqJtY>



Pilani Bubu - Did Where's My Tune (Trio) <https://youtu.be/UN4fYGOr8pM>
Music Love Skat - Pilani Bubu (shorter version) <https://youtu.be/RrVSXgVxHps>
Urban Session Full Show (Band) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75ilRFNVyEo>
As We Lay – Official Music Video <https://youtu.be/sbROciqfpjQ>

FOLLOW ONLINE:

<https://linktr.ee/pilanibubu> - All Links
<https://www.instagram.com/pilanibubu/>
<https://www.facebook.com/PilaniBubu>
<https://twitter.com/PilaniBubu>
<https://album.link/i/1487411592> - Folklore Chapter 1
<https://ditto.fm/lockdownlovestory> - Lockdown Lovestory
<https://soundcloud.com/pilanibubu/sets/journeyofaheart-warrioroflight> - JOH & Warrior Light

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