



PAUL SLABOLEPSZY

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Agent: Elysian Management

Profile

Age: 74

Height (m):

Height (ft.):

Eyes:

Hair:

Languages

English Afrikaans

Accents

None

Skills

Actor

Sizes

Shirt:

Pants:

Dress:

Suit:

Shoe:

Paul was born in Bolton, England and emigrated to South Africa at 3 years old. He spent his childhood in small towns around South Africa – Modderfontein, Witbank and Musina before attending the University of Cape Town, where he graduated with a B.A. (Drama) degree. He was a founder member of SA's first non-racial theatre company, **THE SPACE** in Cape Town (with Athol Fugard, John Kani and Yvonne Bryceland) in 1972.

In Johannesburg (with Mannie Manim & Barney Simon) he was a founder member of the world renowned **MARKET THEATRE COMPANY** in 1976.

In 1983, Paul received the Standard Bank **YOUNG ARTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD**.

As an actor, Paul has appeared in well over **100 STAGE** and **TV PLAYS**, as well as **15 FEATURE FILMS**. Paul's many TV and Film appearances include but not limited too *Frederick Courtney Selous* in **RHODES** (BBC) and *Jan Christiaan Smuts*, in **THE APPRENTICESHIP OF A MAHATMA**.

Paul has received numerous Best Actor Awards for Stage which include *Biff* in **DEATH OF A SALESMAN**, *Chance Wayne* in **SWEET BIRD OF YOUTH**, *Kaspar* in Pieter Handke's **KASPAR**, *Smitty* in **FORTUNE AND MENS' EYES** (where he won his first DALRO Best Actor Award in 1976), *Mercutio* in **ROMEO & JULIET**, *Chandebise/Poche* in **A FLEA IN HER EAR**. As *Eddie*, in his own play **THE RETURN OF ELVIS DU PISANIE**.

Paul became the first actor in SA to win every Best Actor Award nationwide in a single year (Vita, Fleur du Cap and DALRO, 1993). With over thirty plays to his credit, Paul is arguably (after Athol Fugard) South Africa's foremost playwright, his work having been performed in the UK, the USA, Germany, France, Australia, Sweden, Denmark and the Middle East.



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PLAYS: 1979 – RENOVATIONS; 1980 – THE DEFLORATION OF MILES KOEKEMOER; 1982 – SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE PALACE (*Amstel, Vita & Fleur du Cap Best Play*); 1983 – KAROO GRAND; 1984 – UNDER THE OAKS; 1985 – OVER THE HILL (*DALRO Best Play*); 1986 – BOO TO THE MOON, MAKING LIKE AMERICA (*Vita Best Play*); 1988 – TRAVELLING SHOTS; 1989 – SMALLHOLDING (*Vita Best Play*); 1990 – ONE FOR THE HIGH JUMP, THE EYES OF THEIR WHITES; 1991 – BRAAIT LAAITIES (*Pick of the Fringe, Grahamstown Fest*); 1992 – MOOI STREET MOVES (*Paper Boat Best Play Award, Glasgow MayFest*), THE RETURN OF ELVIS DU PISANIE (*Vita, Fleur du Cap and DALRO Best Play*); 1993 – PALE NATIVES; 1994 – VICTORIA ALMOST FALLS, TICKLE TO FINE LEG; 1995 – HEEL AGAINST THE HEAD (*Vita, Star Tonight Best Comedy*); 1996 – ONCE A PIRATE, 1997 – GOING FOR THE JOCLAR, FORDSBURG'S FINEST; 1998 – PLANET PERTH, LIFE'S A PITCH, 2000 – CRASHING THE NIGHT; 2001 – RUNNING RIOT; 2002 – IT'S JUST NOT CRICKET!; 2003 – WHOLE IN ONE; 2005 – ART OF CHARF (LADY LONELY HEARTS); 2006 – NOT THE BIG EASY; 2008 – FOR YOUR EARS ONLY; 2008 – FREAK COUNTRY; 2016 – SUDDENLY THE STORM (*Naledi Best New South African Script 2016/17*).

SCREENPLAYS: 1986 - **SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE PALACE**

(adapted/play) – Merit Award AFI FEST, Los Angeles 1987, TAORMINA Best Actor - John Kani;

1998 – **HEEL AGAINST THE HEAD** (adapted/play); 2006 -

RUNNING RIOT (adapted/play); 2017 – **RIDERS ON THE WIND** (Anne-Linda du Toit).

In 1989 Paul wrote the screenplay for Leon Schuster's **OH, SHUCKS – HERE COMES UNTAG**, and contributed substantially to **SWEET & SHORT** and **MAMA JACK** (2005).

Other co-written screenplays include **VAN DER MERWE P.I.** (Philo Pieterse), **PRINCE VAN PRETORIA** (Franz Marx) and **TAXI TO SOWETO** (Edgar Bold, Manie van Rensburg).

TELEVISION

Paul co-wrote **SENIOR SMITH** (13-part series, SABC); He also co-wrote many episodes on various series which include **SCOOP**

SCHOOMBIE (original concept – for Roberta Durrant), **MADAM & EVE, PEOPLE LIKE US** (with Gray Hofmeyr); **SWANSONG FOR**

CHARLIE – an MNET Made-for-TV Movie, directed and produced by Bobby Heaney.

In 2008 he was Head Writer on a SABC2 Drama Series (**HILLSIDE**), for Aubrey Sekhabi and in 2009 he conceived, created and wrote **KONSTERNASIE OPPIE STASIE** (13 part Afrikaans/English sitcom for SABC2), directed and produced by Bobby Heaney.



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RADIO – several of Paul's plays have been adapted for radio and broadcast by SA fm (SABC), among them **OVER THE HILL**, **ART OF CHARF** and **WHOLE IN ONE**.

Over the past seven years Paul has been Head Writer for a daily series on SA fm called **RADIO VUKA**. Recently the series went past the Episode 2,250 mark.

Paul has had six World Premieres at the Market Theatre in Johannesburg. **SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE PALACE** went on to perform at London's OLD VIC THEATRE in 1984. **THE EYES OF THEIR WHITES** (co-written and co-performed with David Kramer) received acclaim at the 1990 Edinburgh Festival, and **MOOI STREET MOVES** was invited to the Teater der Weld Festival in Germany and the Images of Africa Festival in Denmark, in 1993. The same play won the Paper Boat Award at the Glasgow MayFest in 1994 and went on to the Edinburgh Festival in the same year. **ONCE A PIRATE** (starring Seputla Sebogodi) was part of the Lincoln Centre's WOZAAFRICA FESTIVAL in New York City in July, 1997.

In March, 1993 Paul was invited on a study tour of American Theatres with a group of international drama practitioners as part of the USA International Visitor Program.

In December, 2013 – ARTSCAPE (Cape Town) produced a rework of an earlier play – VICTORIA ALMOST FALLS (now titled **MY LOW-FAT, ALMOST ITALIAN WEDDING**). In May, 2014 the Market Theatre, JHB produced a 20th Anniversary Production of his hit 1994 play, **PALE NATIVES** and his latest play, **SUDDENLY THE STORM** (produced by the Market Theatre), is currently on a National Tour.

Wits University Press have recently published a six-play volume entitled **MOOI STREET & OTHER MOVES**, as well as **SUDDENLY THE STORM**.

Along with Ashleigh Harvey and Luntu Masiza, Paul is part of **THE STORY TEAM**, a Writers' Workshop focusing on Storytelling for Stage, Screen and Television.