

A true apartheid story returns to The Drama Factory stage

The multi award-winning drama, *The Unlikely Secret Agent*, returns to The Drama Factory in Strand from Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 June.

Following its premiere at the local theatre in 2021, the play has toured nationally and internationally to great acclaim. Written and directed by Paul du Toit, *The Unlikely Secret Agent* is a gripping adaptation of Ronnie Kasrils’ book about his late wife, Eleanor.

Set against the backdrop of apartheid South Africa, it follows a young mother and underground activist whose arrest thrusts her into a battle of wills with the security police. Inspiring, suspenseful, and profoundly moving, this true story celebrates courage, love, and the enduring power of hope in the face of oppression. It stars Du Toit, Ashley Dowds,



Erika Breytenbach and Ashley Dowds return to The Drama Factory stage in the award-winning *The Unlikely Secret Agent* this week.

Carlo Daniels, Ntlanhla Kutu and Erika Breytenbach, and is presented by Unlike-ly Productions in association with The Drama Factory.

It’s set in 1963, when the country was on a knife’s edge, engulfed by political protest, sabotage and violence. The apartheid government, under Hendrik Verwoerd, brutally suppresses resistance.

Under the state of emergency, the feared special branch of the police arrested anyone suspected of being involved in underground activities. Eleanor, an unassuming, young single mother is arrested at work at Griggs Bookstore in Durban and taken for questioning.

The police are on the hunt for her lover, the notorious “terrorist”, Red Ronnie Kasrils.

She finds herself detained under the 90-day detention act and brutally interrogated. They will “break her or hang her”. Ronnie is wanted for his involvement in a string of sabotage bombings of electricity pylons, the Durban Post Office and the offices of the special branch.

There is no point in her resisting, the police “know everything”. But do they really?

Eleanor is keeping a secret. She is a clandestine agent for the underground ANC. But she must protect her comrades and Ronnie. She makes the daring decision to fake a nervous breakdown in order to be transferred to a psychiatric institution.

From there, she begins to plot her escape.

The production will be staged at 19:30 on 25 and 26 June, with matinees at 15:00 on 27 June and 16:00 on 28 June.

■ Tickets, at R285 and R250 each, can be bought online at www.dramafactory.co.za.

Colourful pirates sail into Artscape

A bold new production of *The Pirates of Penzance* sails into the Artscape Theatre next month.

Pirates, policemen, romance and comic chaos come to the Cape this winter as G&S presents the vibrant adaptation of Gilbert and Sullivan’s much-loved comic opera, *The Pirates of Penzance*, from Saturday 4 to Sunday 12 July.

Performed in English, filled with humour and shorter than many traditional operas, the production offers an accessible and entertaining introduction to opera for families, younger audience members and first-time opera-goers – while still delivering all the wit, word-play and musical sparkle that Gilbert and Sullivan audiences know and love.

Directed by Darryl J Spijkers from Somerset West, with musical direction by Alastair Cockburn, the bold new staging brings renewed theatrical energy to one of the most enduring works in comic opera, while remaining firmly rooted in its Victorian-era setting and charm.

The production features a cast of more than 60 performers, dancers and live accompaniment from the orchestra pit by the newly formed Cape Town Sinfonietta, a 26-piece orchestra.

At a time when large live orchestras are increasingly rare in musical theatre and comic opera productions, audiences will have the opportunity to experience Sullivan’s sparkling score performed in full.



The Pirates of Penzance brings colourful characters, laughter and musical brilliance to the Artscape Theatre in July. Photo: Tiffany Schultz Photography

First performed in 1879, *The Pirates of Penzance* remains one of Gilbert and Sullivan’s most popular and entertaining works.

Filled with razor-sharp humour, fast-paced storytelling, swashbuckling adventure and memorable melodies, the production includes favourites such as “I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major-General”, alongside romantic duets, comic ensembles and energetic finales.

With its colourful characters, lively staging, dancers, full orchestra and large cast, the production promises laughter, spectacle and musical brilliance in equal measure.

It will run for eight performances, including three afternoon matinees.

■ Ticket prices range from R225 to R350 and are available online through Webtickets or via Artscape Dial-a-Seat on 021 421 7695.



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD

LEGAL NOTICE

ZUTARI

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: REHABILITATION OF THE STEENBRAS WATER TREATMENT PLANT ACCESS ROAD, WESTERN CAPE

Project Title: Rehabilitation of the Steenbras Water Treatment Plant Access Road, Western Cape.

Project Proposal: City of Cape Town (CoCT) proposes the rehabilitation/repair of a damaged section “Slope 1” of the Steenbras Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Access Road on Farm Faure 933, where the slope instability occurred as a result of flood damage, Western Cape.

Legal Framework: To seek environmental authorisation, a Basic Assessment Reporting (BAR) process for the proposed repairs is required in terms National Environment Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended) and the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended). An Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) has been submitted to the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP).

DEA&DP Reference Number: 16/3/31/A3/56/2022/26

Available Information: The Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) is being made available to the public for a **30-day review and comment period from 30 June 2026 to 30 July 2026**. The report can be accessed at the following locations:

- Online at: <https://www.zutari.com/SteenbrasWTP Access Road/ and https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mJsHLQfm1saVtY39DCe9coOMzbNUVnB5?usp=sharing>
- A hard copy of the BAR has been made available at Gordon’s Bay Public Library, 6 Watt Street, Gordons Bay Central, Cape Town.

Opportunity to Participate: Notice is hereby given of the commencement of the Public Participation Process (PPP) for the Draft BAR. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register their interest in the project, review the Draft BAR and to submit written comments to Zutari (details below) within the prescribed comment period. Requests to register as an I&AP and any comments must be submitted in writing together with your full contact details. Future correspondence relating to the Environmental Processes will be distributed to registered I&APs only.

Contact Person: Silindile Sibiya
Email: PPP@zutari.com
Telephone: 044 805 5421
Postal: PO Box 509, George 6530

Disclaimer: Zutari places a high premium on the privacy & personal information of our stakeholders. Please note that, as a Registered I&AP in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, your personal details including your name, contact details and address is recorded into a register. The processing of personal information is subject to the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), Act No. 4 of 2013, which came into effect on the 1st of July 2021.

ZUTARI

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A WATER USE LICENSE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE LOURENSFORD INTAKE HOUSE AND LOURENS RIVER INTAKE CHANNEL, ON PORTION RE/741 AND 744, CITY OF CAPE TOWN, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 41 (4) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) [NWA] of an application to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for a Water Use License (WUL) for the for the reconstruction of the Lourensford Intake House and Channel, Lourensford Wine Estate in the Western Cape. The DWS reference number for this application is Wu44562.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Cape Town (henceforth “CoCT”) is planning the reconstruction of the Lourensford Intake Station and Lourens River Chanel, Lourensford Wine Estate-region in the Western Cape. The river embankment has eroded over time, the river began to flow to the rear of the intake house, undermining it and ultimately washing away the steps and part of the foundation. The CoCT intends to reinstate the embankment that was washed away utilising a three-step process that involves the following:

- Infilling of the bypass channel to divert water away from the eastern bank and directly over the weir.
- Removal of accumulated sediment immediately upstream of the weir to assist in directing flow through the bank walls and over the weir.
- Realignment of the channel upstream of the bank walls.

LOCATION

The Lourensford Intake House and Channel is located on the bank of the Lourens River in Lourensford Wine Estate is within the City of Cape Town, Western Cape. The immediate neighbouring land uses mostly comprises of wine estates (farming). The intake house is located on Farm Lourensford RE/741 and RE/744. The properties are located in quaternary catchment G22J of the Berg River Primary Catchment and fall within the Southern Folded Mountains ecoregion.

PROPOSED WATER USE

Legislation	Activities
National Water Act, (Act No. 36 of 1998)	Section 21 (c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse, or and
	Section 21(i): altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse

OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

For more information, to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) or to submit comments, please contact us via email, post, or phone, no later than 25 August 2026:

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PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD IS 60 DAYS: 25 JUNE 2026 TO 25 AUGUST 2026