

## **AFRICA'S FIRST 3D ANIMATED SERIES MAKES MAGIC ON SABC 2!**

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For the first time ever, an African 3D animated series will be broadcast on South African television. Magic Cellar, a series of 20 animated programmes and commissioned by SABC 2 will have its world premiere on SABC 2's TUBE on Saturday March 25 2006 at 14:15.

Magic Cellar, beautifully produced using Maya software, is based on African stories and will be the first time that South African viewers can identify with an animated series. TUBE Viewers have the opportunity to make a whole new group of friends with the Magic Cellar characters Pula, Marcus, Navitha, Josh, Melissa as well as Mr. Zee and Gecko Girl. These lovable characters will keep their friends captivated with an interesting and informative story every week

"We are very proud to bring to our young viewers Africa's first 3D animated series, Magic Cellar, which tells African stories to Africa's children. Each episode has a story to tell, with a lesson to learn. Our animated programmes attract a large audience and this African animated series will leave our viewers enchanted. It is also an achievement to broadcast the series in English, Sesotho, Afrikaans and isiZulu and we intend to eventually broadcast in all 11 official languages – another first for SABC 2!." Says Bessie Tugwana, SABC 2's General Manager.

Magic Cellar features a multi-cultural cast of characters and has South Africa's beautiful setting as its backdrop. The series is a co-production between Mfundu Vundla of Morula Pictures, creator of some of South Africa's most watched programmes and Canadian award-winning producer and director Firdaus Kharas (Chocolate Moose Media), with original music written by acclaimed South African composer Musa Manzini.

Says Firdaus Kharas, Director and Executive producer from Ottawa, Canada, "It has been very fulfilling to work on the first 3D animated series that features a multi-cultural cast of characters, set to African voices and music and based on African stories. The children of South Africa will recognise themselves in the series and the world will get to enjoy Africa's long history of story-telling".

SABC 2 brings you the magic in the form of Africa's first 3D animated programme Magic Cellar – be enchanted and bewitched every Saturday at 14:15.