

Akkel - *the band*



Heritage Music Reborn

About the Music

Akkel draws on the living roots of **Cape Goema** – the street rhythms, carnival horns, and storytelling songs born in District Six and the Bo-Kaap. Our sound carries this heritage forward, blending it with **Cape Jazz, African improvisation, and contemporary influences**. The result is music that is **joyful, rhythmic, and deeply rooted in community**, yet fresh and surprising to modern ears.

The Band

Mo (Bra Goema X)

Mo is an elder of the Cape Goema community , and he brings us precious melodies, chords and lyrics from the misty past of District 6 and the Bokaap. He is a product of the Goema communitas and paideia of the period, a student of the Goema undercommons – a space of fugitive social life and resistance that exists beneath and beyond oppressive institutions like universities and the state. He is currently writing a book about Robbie Jansen and Mac Mckenzie and their contributions to our culture.

Leslie Javan

Leslie Javan is a reputable artist in his own right, both as a performer and as a composer for film and TV. He brings a unique passion and subtlety in his approach to creating and performing music, along with excellent arrangement and production skills. Javan has been

covered and written songs for Valiant Swart and Karen Zoid. Nick Turner and Zolani Moholo of Freshly Ground released one of his songs on Turner's new 2018 album.

Ben Amato

Ben Amato played saxophone with the Nagtroeps (new years eve marching carnival band) as a teenager in Cape Town, and has always had a deep love for Cape Jazz and African music. He is also an accomplished composer and producer.

Colin Skelton

Colin Skelton is a theatre-maker, performer and vocalist who has brought Akkel's sound to fruition. As a traveler with a love for hybrid performance, Goema is a sound he both discovers and embodies – a living rhythm that resonates with his storytelling roots. He injects the band with energy and focus.

Media



Book Us

For corporate functions, heritage events, cultural programmes, and live music venues.

Please inquire directly for gig pricing and availability.

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