

Gemma Marinus

Entertainment Strategist, Educator and Producer



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Gemma Marinus



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Gemma has worked in the entertainment industry for over 25 years, starting her career as a performer, she then moved to mentoring and teaching young performers (Stageworx School Of Performing Arts), Producing Stage Shows (Born To Perform) and booking and creating bespoke entertainment for a variety of corporate, marketing and entertainment venues.

Originally from the UK, in her performance career Gemma performed in a variety of musicals both internationally and nationally including, Mama Mia, Boys In A Photograph (With Ben Elton and Andrew Lloyd Webber) My Fair Lady, Hairspray, Jesus Christ Superstar and the ABBA show. She has worked with artists such as Robbie Williams and Gerri Halliwell and has toured the globe as a musical theatre artist, vocalist and dancer.

Gemma has a passion for the development of arts education in South Africa and has been responsible for the implementation of the Trinity London College Examinations in SA and regularly consults with them on the syllabus. She is the owner and principal of Stageworx School Of Performing Arts which prides itself as the leader in arts education in South Africa.

Gemma is also the CEO of The Born To Perform NPC, which has produced over 6 full-scale productions, the most recent being the "SHINE" show at the Montecasino Teatro, which won the 2019 award for most entertaining stage show and highlighted young upcoming talent in South Africa alongside celebrity featured entertainment. The foundation has provided scholarships and bursaries for training in the arts for many upcoming performers that otherwise would not be able to follow this career path. She has also produced productions for the Johannesburg Youth Orchestra, Gold Reef City, Montecasino, The Roodepoort Theatre to name a few. Her vision is to spread the importance of arts education for the youth and assist in building the foundations for viable arts related business models in South Africa. In 2020 Gemma will be releasing her first book on navigating a career in the entertainment industry.

As well as been a keen supporter of youth entertainment, Gemma regularly works with high profile artists, managers and venues and has directed on music videos, stage shows and choreographed for live events all over South Africa.

Gemma has secured a team of award-winning lighting designers, choreographers, musical directors and arrangers that assist her with showing the very best that South Africa has to offer in the entertainment field.



Skills

- Creative Concepts and Implementation
- Schedules and Time Management
- Budget Management
- Mentorship and Management of large teams
- Artist Management
- Logistics and Inter-Company Liaising
- Strategy
- Choreography, Directing, Musical Directing and Vocal Arranging
- Script Writing and Original Music Compositions
- Conflict Management



Work History

2005 - Current

• **Founder & Principal**

Stageworx School Of Performing Arts – Training and Development for young people wanting a career in the performance field.

www.stageworx.co.za

Nature of Business: Mentoring and training students in all aspects of arts development – Music, Drama, Dance, Arts Management.

- Conceptualisation and creation of business from scratch.
- Creating, sourcing and implementing syllabuses for training.
- Managing all teachers and overseeing progress.
- Creating and sourcing performance opportunities for students
- Financial Management
- Mentoring and guiding students, putting in goal points and aims and objectives, dealing with concerns and any conflict management.

2010- Current

• **Founder & CEO – Born To Perform Worldwide**

Production Company for Youth Driven Entertainment

www.borntoperform.co.za

Nature of Business: High Quality Entertainment productions, crossing the bridge between upcoming artists and professional artists.

- Conceptualisation and creation of business from scratch.
- Conceptualisation of all shows
- Booking and managing all creative elements
- Financial Management
- Managing teams, schedules and time planning
- Booking of all artists.
- Liaising with Samro, Dalro and licencing companies.
- Project Management
- Assessing, managing, and resolving problematic developments and situations.
- Building and enhancing the company's public profile

2005-2010

Manager and Co-Owner of Stageworx Entertainment

A booking agency for ad-hoc entertainment for company events and entertainment venues.

- Sourcing of entertainment groups and artists for events
- Working with Montecasino, Gold Reef City and various corporate companies in either sourcing or creating entertainment for functions and events
- Budget and financial management
- Directing, choreographing, script writing for bespoke entertainment
- Managing of schedules for long-run entertainment functions, nationally and internationally
- Upskilling of local artists and performers.

1998 - 2010

Professional Freelance Performer

- Prince Charles 50th Birthday Celebrations at the Lyceum Theatre – London – Singer and Dancer
- Backing Dancer and Vocalist with Robbie Williams – UK and touring
- Gerri Halliwell "Its Raining Men" Music Video – London - Dancer
- The Michael Barrymore Show – ITV – Performer
- Children In Need Special – ITV - Performer
- West-End Variety showcases – London Palladium, Her Majesties Theatre, Lyceum Theatre.
- Weird Sister TV Show – ITV - Actress
- Carnival Cruises – Lead Production Vocalist – America and the Caribbean.
- The Buddy Holly Show – South Africa and International Tour

2000 - 2002

- Various Pantomimes – Johannesburg Theatre – South Africa
- My Fair Lady – State Theatre – Eliza Doolittle
- The Rocky Horror Show – National Tour – Janet
- Jesus Christ Superstar – European Tour – Understudy Mary
- Hairspray The Musical – Lyric Theatre – Lo-Anne
- Footloose The Musical – Johannesburg Theatre – Mary Jo
- The Boys In A Photograph – Johannesburg Theatre (with Ben Elton and Andrew Lloyd Webber – Christine
- Mama Mia – the Teatro – Lisa and understudy Sophie
- The Abba Show – Australia and New Zealand – Agnitha

Vocal and Musical Theatre Teacher – Whitehall College Of Performing Arts - UK

- Teaching of singing lessons and musical theatre classes.
- Liaising with principal and department heads to meet aims and objectives with students
- Creative input into shows and showcases



Education

Whitehall Performing Arts College – London

1999 – 2002

Musical Theatre Diploma – Distinction

LTCL in Musical Theatre

ISTD Associates in Dance

Berklee University Of Music – US

2019 – Current (online study)

Masters in vocal development



Accomplishments

- Various Naledi Award nominations for performances.
- “2019 Shine” production at Montecasino Teatro awarded most entertaining show of 2019.
- Various students have received national and international success in the entertainment field.
- Invited to be interviewed by Trinity College London on Arts Education in South Africa – filmed in London UK.
- Stageworx featured on a 16week episode campaign on Arts Development for the “Expresso morning show”



Languages



English