

# 40 rising stars named by Design Indaba Emerging Creatives

Design Indaba's Emerging Creatives platform has named the 40 gifted youngsters who will participate in the local creative developmental programme.



Design Indaba Emerging Creative, Buhle Nkalashe

The platform, that has been supporting South Africa's fresh talent for 17 years, received more than 380 entries this year.

The Emerging Creatives programme is designed to hone talent and provide participants with strategies to take their work to the next level and to market.

Over the years, the Design Indaba Emerging Creatives platform has successfully launched the careers of a number of gifted creatives, including the likes of Mpho Vackier, Russell Abrahams, Daniel Ting Chong, Crystal Birch, and scores of others.

"We are delighted to continue our annual support for our country's young creatives, particularly in a constrained pandemic environment," says Design Indaba founder Ravi Naidoo.

## Innovation in design-led problem-solving

The Class of 2022 was selected by curators Lukhanyo Mdingi and Ditiro Mashigo - both well-known fashion designers who also happen to be former emerging creatives themselves. Both were impressed by the high quality of the submissions.

“I’m incredibly inspired to see the brewing and exceptional talent of the emerging creatives,” says Mdingi.

“Year after year, Design Indaba has provided a platform for aspiring designers at large to showcase their work and what they have to offer the industry. They are to be commended for this,” adds Mdingi.

In sifting through the many submissions, Mashigo’s agenda was to seek out “innovation in design-led problem-solving and an honest point of view from South African emerging design talents on issues of climate change, socio economics and equality”.

## **Creative thinking a survival skill**

Congratulations to all those who have come through the rigorous curatorial selection process – this year’s emerging creatives are enormously talented, and we look forward to seeing the Class of 2022’s contribution,” says Dr Stella Khumalo, Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC).

“The pandemic has shown us that creative thinking is not a luxury but a survival skill, so nurturing creative talent is vital. We are proud to partner with the Design Indaba once again to invest in the future of the South Africa’s creative industries,” adds Khumalo.

Naidoo adds: “We are grateful to our partner, the DSAC for its ongoing commitment to stand with the rising stars of tomorrow.”

## **The 2022 inductees are:**

1. Luke Rudman
2. Charity Vilakazi
3. Julia Duduzile Mohanoe
4. Kutlwano Monyai
5. Mona-lisa Mthethwa
6. Nandipha Yanta
7. Nuraan Khan
8. Lumka Jordaan
9. Naomi Zwane
10. Amy-Leigh Braaf
11. Daniella Kilpatrick
12. Katlego Magano
13. Lundi Mlonyeni
14. Mbangiso Mabaso
15. Mishaal Gangaram
16. Moeko Karabelo Selebalo
17. Mohau Moholane
18. Njabulo Maseko
19. Riyaadh Ismail
20. Samkelo Boyde Xaba
21. Sibusiso Feni
22. Siyabonga Mtshali
23. Sizani Baloyi
24. Thulani Kubeka
25. Fernando

26. Kyle Kemink
27. Fikile Sokhulu
28. Drew Kendall Haller
29. Nkululeko Mthembu
30. Tsepiso Lekganyane
31. Noxolo Thando Masuku
32. Lindiwe Irene Rethebile Gugushe
33. Mikhailia Petersen
34. Thando Ntuli
35. Lehlogonolo Khaas
36. Lauren Gericke
37. Leila Walter
38. Akshar Maganbehari
39. Arron Moos
40. Buhle Nkalashe

The young designers handpicked for the 2022 edition will be introduced to the public via an extended virtual exhibition and Design Indaba's thriving social media channels. The Class of 2022 will also benefit from masterclass sessions with international and local experts, like UK-based Artstthread, documentary video sessions, and dedicated personal profiles on [designindaba.com](https://designindaba.com).

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