

## **ARA 2022 Conference: Proposal for Screening and Dialogue**

Topic: Language and place as sites of indigenous knowledge

Title: **Lekker Geswitch: Waking up The Beehive, a collective film project in Kliptown**

Presented by Mocke J van Veuren with Prince Massingham, Neo Monyamane and participants in The Beehive film project.

**Keywords:** Collective filmmaking, community film, indigenous languages, heritage, site specificity

The Beehive is a feature length film created in the historic area of Kliptown, premiering in the community in April 2022, screened outdoors at the ruins of the Sans Souci Bioscope.

The film was written by Prince Massingham and Neo Monyamane, based on characters developed by Prince Massingham, author of the book "Kliptown Stories". The film was directed by Neo Monyamane, with support from the WSOA Film and Television Department. Arts Research Africa supported the production and the development of a documentary investigating the creative process,

A short film will be screened, showing excerpts of the feature film as well as parts of a the documentary on the film's development, exploring questions of language and place as sites of knowledge, and filmmaking as a form of collective research and knowledge production in that context.

### **Main Presenters:**

**Mocke J van Veuren** is an artist, experimental filmmaker, researcher and educator based in Johannesburg. His interests include the intersection of performance and film, collaborative creative processes, and radical pedagogies. He is currently a Lecturer at the WSOA Department of Film and Television.

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### **Prince Massingham**

Author, script writer, actor, researcher and educator born and bred in Kliptown, Soweto. Massingham developed characters and wrote the scripts of the short film "Die Matras" (2019) and the feature "The Beehive", filmed as part of the Kliptown community film initiative in 2020 and 2021.

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### **Neo Monyamane**

Independent filmmaker hailing from a small mining town in the Free State. In 2019 Neo was selected as part of the NFVF youth director programme. Neo has directed and produced 5 short films, a 6 part documentary series, 2 documentary films and recently "Die Matras" and "The Beehive", in collaboration with the community film initiative in Kliptown.

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