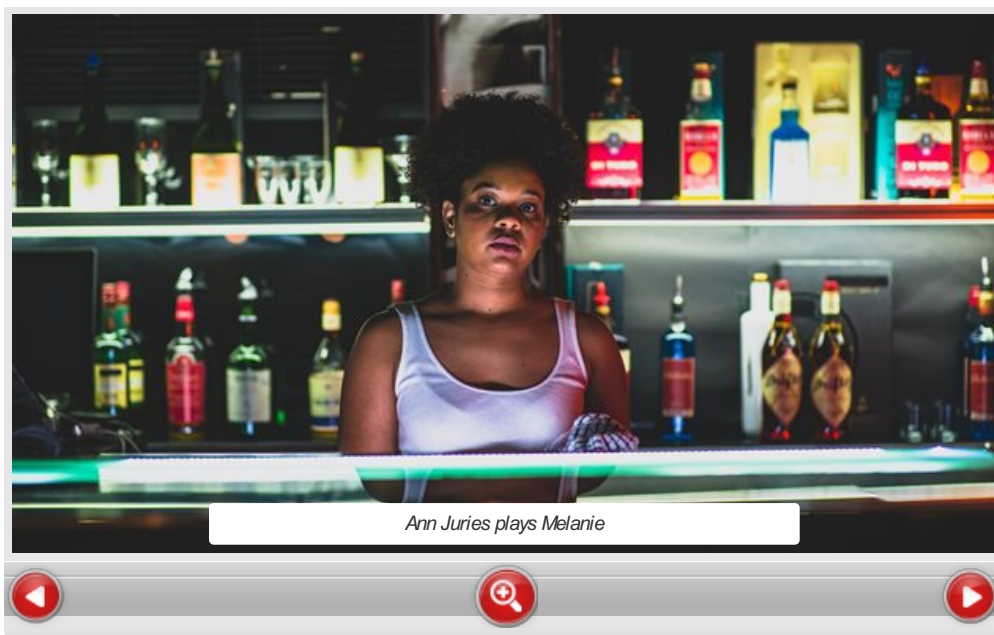


Showmax Original *Skemerdans* to launch in 2021

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- *Skemerdans* is a Cape Flats neo-noir murder mystery
- Set at *The Oasis*, a jazz club - being filmed at the iconic *Club Galaxy* in Rylands
- Starring Safta-winners Kevin Smith, Ilse Klink and Brendon Daniels, among others
- Standard Bank Young Artist winner Amy Jephta is showrunning with Ephraim Gordon (*Sara Se Geheim*, *Suidooster*)
- Shot by Safta-winner Chris Lotz (*Jan*, *The Endless River*, *Rage*, *Shoreline*)
- Organic, hyper-local mix of Afrikaans and English, with a nostalgic Cape jazz soundtrack



The Showmax Original *Skemerdans* is currently in production in Cape Town. The Cape Flats neo-noir is expected to launch on Showmax in 2021.

After the murder of owner Glenn Fortune, *The Oasis* Jazz Club becomes the centre of a power struggle between two brothers, a scorned widow and an organised crime syndicate.

Safta-winners Kevin Smith (*Isidingo*, *Arendsvlei*), Ilse Klink (*Stroomop*, *Isidingo*) and Brendon Daniels (*Four Corners*, *Sara se Geheim*, *Arendsvlei*) lead the all-star cast as Glenn, his wife Shireen and his brother Trevor respectively. Ceagan Arendse (*Suidooster*, *Arendsvlei*) is the black sheep of the family, Warren; Trudy van Rooy (*Die Byl*, *Sara Se Geheim*) is Glenn's prodigal daughter, Jessie; and Safta nominee Vinette Ebrahim (*7de Laan*, *Binnelanders*) is the formidable Fortune family matriarch.

2019 Comics Choice nominee – and Good Hope FM *Happy Hour* host – Carl Weber also stars as one of the Adams brothers, mob bosses who are busy buying up the strip around *The Oasis*. Bongo Mbutuma (*Die Spreeus*, *Erfsondes*) plays his partner in crime and brother from another mother.

The murder mystery's ensemble cast also includes Fleur du Cap winner Mbulelo Grootboom (*Sara Se Geheim*, *Projek Dina*), Fleur du Cap nominee Ann Juries (*Arendsvlei*, *Ander Mens*), Danny Ross (*Nommer 37*, *Arendsvlei*, *Suidooster*), Kim Syster (*Binnelanders*, *Suidooster*), Carmen Maarman (*Arendsvlei*, *Lui Maar Op*, *Belinda*), Sanda Shandu (*The*

Kissing Booth 1 and 2) and legendary Cape Town muso Alistair Izobell.

2019 Standard Bank Young Artist Amy Jephtha (writer: *Trackers*, *Die Ellen Pakkies Storie*, and director of the upcoming feature *Barakat*) is executive producer and showrunner on this new 13-part series, co-directing alongside Ephraim Gordon (*Sara Se Geheim*, *Suidooster*). Nagvlug Films (*Rage*) is producing.

Filming is taking place along Voortrekker Road and at Club Galaxy in Rylands, arguably Cape Town's most famous club ever since it opened in 1978, which is doubling as both The Oasis and the Adams brothers' strip club The Velvet Room. Safta-winning DOP Chris Lotz (*Jan*, *The Endless River*, *Rage*, *Shoreline*) is shooting mostly between dusk and dawn, leaning into the shadows, silhouettes and neon lighting that makes the locations so perfect for a noir series.

"We wrote the story with Galaxy and Voortrekker Road in mind," says Amy. "We wanted to take these completely local settings and give them the same treatment we associate with LA noir, to make them feel as cinematic and iconic."

A organic, hyper-local mix of both Afrikaans and English, the 13-part half-hour series will launch on Showmax in 2021, with a nostalgic Cape jazz soundtrack guaranteed to take you back to your own time on the Galaxy dancefloor as you try figure out who killed Glenn Fortune, and why.



Amy Jephtha

Other upcoming Showmax Originals include the reality series *Lebo M: Coming Home*, due 2 December 2020, and the Megan Fox action movie *Rogue*, due 3 December 2020, as well as Jahmil XT Qubeka's ancient Africa series *Blood Psalms*, a co-production with Canal+ International; the long-awaited second season of the South African Film and Television Award-winning comedy, *Tali's Wedding Diary*; and the small town horror *Dam*, all expected in early 2021.

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