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Performing management: how ten jazz musicians approach career organisation

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Performing Management: How Ten Jazz Musicians Approach Career Organisation

A research report submitted to the Faculty of Humanities in fulfillment of requirements for the degree of Master of Arts. University of the Witwatersrand,

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ABSTRACT

This report investigates the experiences of a segment of jazz musicians in Johannesburg when administering their careers. The report gives a historical context to the relationship the ten musicians have with jazz performance management. This background provides a lens through which to view the paradigm shift in the socio-economic environment of local musicians in the post-1994 era. The performers detail how they engage with business management, financial management and self-management. Through this, they demonstrate how they balance their artistic and commercial ambitions in their quest for career longevity. The motivation of this research report was to encourage more debate around the social and economic imperatives of local music performance. It was to probe what hinders or sustains careers in this sector, and to question how musicians manage to make ends meet.

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this Research Report is my own unaided work. It is submitted for the degree of Master of Arts in the Faculty of Humanities at the University of the Witwatersrand. I also confirm that it has not been submitted before for any other degree or examination in any other university.

Signature:

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Date:

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