

# Tokoloshe The Calling gets selected at Durban International Film Festival

 By Earle Holmes, issued by AFDA

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The film, renamed *Tokoloshe: An African Curse* for the American market, was recently released on VOD in the USA.

Afda Durban lecturer, film director, producer and Afda Master of Arts (MA) graduate, Richard Green's master's degree outcome horror film, *Tokoloshe The Calling*, has been officially selected to screen at the Durban International Film Festival this year.

*Tokoloshe The Calling*, co-written and produced by Afda Durban head of Business Innovation and Technology School, Arish Sirkissoo and Richard was shot in Durban, South Africa. The film's diverse cast includes Afda alumni Shezi Sibongiseni and Angela Balkovic, Afda Durban Registra Lloyd O'Connor and Head of Live Performance School Roel Twijnstra.

The film, renamed *Tokoloshe: An African Curse* for the American market, was recently released on VOD in the USA. The feature is currently moving to a bigger distributor in the states and should be available in the coming months to larger networks.



The feature has also been picked up by Video Vision Entertainment, who will represent the product in Africa.

Based on the legend of the *Tokoloshe*, an urban myth that has terrified Africa in a similar way Americans fear the Boogeyman, the *Tokoloshe* is a sinister creature that haunts people's dreams and possesses them to commit evil acts.

The film's synopsis states that a novelist, pressured to write a new bestseller, travels with his family to an abandoned hotel in South Africa, unaware that it's haunted by a demon known as the *Tokoloshe*. When the writer becomes possessed and begins terrorising his family, a young woman experiencing supernatural visions linked to the hotel sets out to help the family and defeat the *Tokoloshe*.

Richard and Arish are enjoying great local and international recognition with the film. It seems the world has a fascination with horror films coming out of South Africa. When asked what they thought their winning formula was, they both agreed that it was presenting and defending "unique narratives that promote escapism".

*Tokoloshe The Calling* premiered in South Africa to celebrate the launch of the movie on Prime Video on Valentine's Day 2020. The movie received such high praise that a bigger distributor has picked it up.

A massive shout out to all the Afda Durban staff, alumni and students below that make up the cast and crew on *Tokoloshe The Calling*.

## Cast:

Sibongiseni Shezi - Lead Actress  
Lloyd Grant O' Connor - Lead Actor  
Angela Balkovic - Lead Actress

Sir Roelof Twijnstra - Actor  
Ndabenhle Christopher Tabo - Actor  
Rio Notra - Actress

#### Crew:

Director - Richard Green  
Producers - Richard Green and Arish Sirkissoon  
Writers - Richard Green and Arish Sirkissoon  
Executive Producer - Arish Sirkissoon  
Editor: Arish Sirkissoon  
Sound design- Arish Sirkissoon  
Cinematographer - Damien Tomaselli  
Line Producer - LX Seth PTY LTD  
Doll Design - Genie Lagrange  
Associate Producer - Resham Bansee- Joshua Symons  
Assistant to LX Seth and Richard Green - Edwin Chetty  
1st Assistant Camera - Alice Mdluli-Katya Stacey Jonson and Nick Bartlett  
2nd Assistant Camera - Alice Mdluli and Katya Stacey Johnson  
Still Photographer - Alice Mdluli and Katya Stacey Johnson  
Gaffer - Alice Mdluli and Stacey Johnson  
DITT- Jason Coetzee  
Sound- Simon Jones - Edwin Chetty -Brandon Dengler  
Grading- Damien Tomaselli , Alice Mdluli and Katya Stacey Johnson

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