

Biko Mabuse



By [Martin Myers](#)

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The legendary Sipho "Hotstix" Mabuse has played a massive role in growing South African music, from his days in the Beaters to Harari and now. Now his 19-year-old son Biko Mabuse is on a musical journey with his band 12 Dogs.



Biko Mabuse. | Photo: David Brimson/Evermore Photography

I spoke to the rising star Biko Mabuse in an exclusive interview about his musical journey. Interestingly enough, his father just celebrated his 70th birthday on the 2nd of November.

Like father, like son, this young man Biko has talent and confidence by the bucket full. Remember the name Biko Mabuse - a driven talented young man.

■ ***The new decade means:***

More opportunities and more life.

■ ***Fame is about:***

Having your name in conversations of the public.

■ ***Retirement will happen when?***

As a musician, I'll retire when I die.

■ ***I don't do:***

Drugs.

■ ***What does music mean to you?***

My DNA.

■ ***My music is about:***

A natural expression of human life.

■ ***I would love to co-write with:***

Hotstix Mabuse, RJ Benjamin, Khuli Chana and Kayla Nkwe.

■ ***Where do you go for inspiration to create?***

I draw inspiration from many experiences, places, times and people.

■ ***What is the most enjoyable aspect of your work?***

The spiritual resonance of creating the music. It's an indescribable experience.

■ ***The song you must do in every show:***

Turn it Up - 12 Dogs.

■ ***Any funny moments on stage?***

Thabiso (12 dogs) rolling all over the stage during his guitar solo and I also rap with my dad on *Burnout*. I appeared on stage with him at Ricoffy's 50th Birthday Bash and now I do regular shows with dad, adding a 2021 rap to the classic *Burnout*.

■ ***My heroes:***

Steve Biko, Michael Jackson and Kobe Bryant.

■ ***My style icon:***

Sipho "Hotstix" Mabuse.

🎲 **Which living person do you admire most and why?**

My mother, Naniwe Maqetuka. Her strong, intelligent and loving character sets an example for what it means to be a genuine person.

🎲 **What is your most treasured possession?**

My ID.



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🎲 **It's your round. What are you drinking?**

Merlot.

🎲 **Dream gig to do:**

Fifa World Cup opening ceremony.

🎲 **What makes you stand out?**

The way I carry myself. My mind.

🎲 **Nicknames:**

Biks.

🎲 **If you were not a musician, what would you do?**

I would be an actor.

🎲 **Who would play you in a Hollywood blockbuster and why?**

Kanye West. His life has been a movie and I would play that role well.

🎲 **Pick five words to describe yourself:**

Confident, smart, talented and a worker.

🎲 **Five favorite South African albums:**

We Used to Dance - Andile Yenana

Dankie San - Pro Kid

Township Child - Sipho Hotstix Mabuse

Levels - AKA

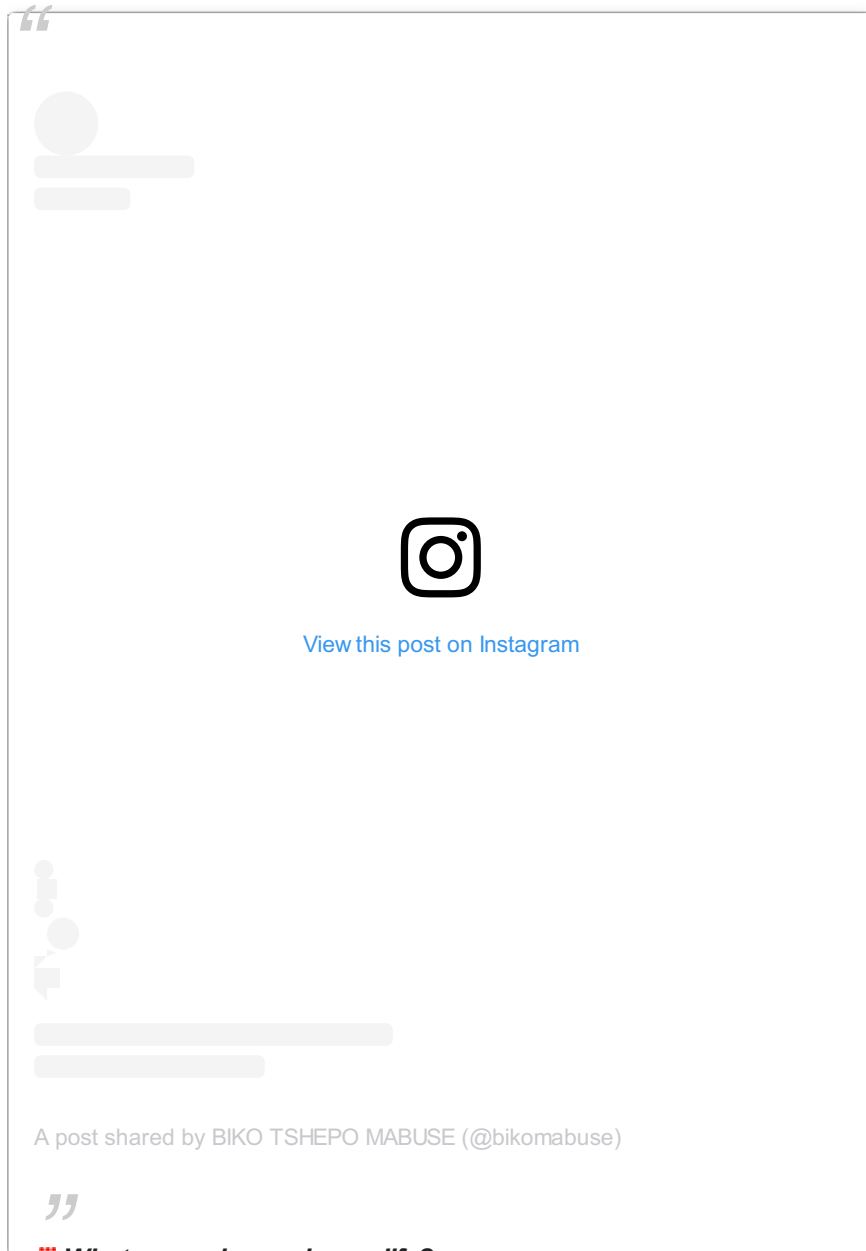
Zimphonic Suites - Zim Ngqawana

🎲 **Greatest movie ever made:**

Jerusalema.

📊 **What books are you reading?**

Tomorrow is Another Country by Allister Sparks, *I write what I like* by Steve Biko and a lot of self-help books.



📊 **What song changed your life?**

For Sale? (interlude) by Kendrick Lamar.

📊 **Who do you love?**

Myself.

📊 **What is your favorite word?**

San'bonani.

📊 **Favorite fashion garment:**

Spotie (Bucket hat).

📊 **Give us some proper slang and what it means:**

Ekse, shup fede? (Hi, how are you?), *Zikhiphani?* (What's happening?) and *Tsasa* (Lip therapy).

🎵 **Top of your bucket list:**

Speak fluent French.

🎵 **Your greatest achievement:**

15,000 streams of *Consequence of Sound* in eight weeks.

🎵 **What do you complain about most often?**

The government.

🎵 **What is your fear?**

Predator animals.

🎵 **Happiness is:**

Feeling of elation.

🎵 **On stage I tend to:**

Sweat a lot.



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🎵 **The best life lesson you have been taught:**

Don't believe the hype and stay humble.

🎵 **Do you get worked up whilst watching a sports game on TV?**

Yes, 100%. Orlando Pirates gives me headaches every week.

🎵 **Where would you like to be right now?**

In the studio making music.

🎵 **Do you do charity work and if you do, what do you do?**

Yes, I do. I help coaching kids' basketball at the Klipspruit Sports Center in Soweto.

🎵 **Wishes and dreams:**

To be one of the best multi-genre producers and songwriters.

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ABOUT MARTIN MYERS

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