



# Niki's Oasis

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18<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## **RE: Concerts SA Project**

To Whom it May Concern:

I Simnikiwe Niki Sondlo, Owner of Niki's Oasis Jazz Restaurant in Newtown, recommend the support of any kind to the **Concerts SA** project which is managed by IKS Cultural Consulting and supported by the Norwegian Embassy and SAMRO. Concerts SA is a nationwide live music support program whose focus is to promote and develop the live music scene, educate, and develop skills of musicians and promoters. The project has mentored many young South African musicians who have become confident and skillful in their craft and in turn added value to the live music scene. The project has also benefitted many professional artists, venues, audiences, promoters, and technical production crews over the past 10 years.

As someone who has been promoting live jazz and visual art at my restaurant Niki's Oasis since 1995, I believe in the value that Concerts SA has contributed to the development of the live music scene in our country. Our venue would have long ended the live music offering due to mounting financial costs had it not been for the partnership and funding received from Concerts SA since 2013.

Given the context of the prevailing hardships experienced by venues, promoters, and artists in South Africa due to Covid-19 and the energy crisis, Concerts SA continues to give us hope despite the adversities. Working with professional and committed people who run IKS Cultural Consulting under the leadership of Andre Le Roux, is essential to the development of the live music element and sustaining South African music.

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***Niki Sondlo: Managing Member – Niki's Oasis Jazz Restaurant  
INCORPORATED AS ZUNIZA INVESTMENTS C.C.  
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The Digital Mobility Fund which was launched in 2020 supported a lot of musicians especially during Covid-19 lockdown and made it possible for musicians to host digital concerts and stream their live performances has given hope to many musicians facing challenges that would have shattered their hopes and dreams.

At Niki's Oasis for example, we have been beneficiaries of their funding support as they have consistently supported our live jazz programme as well as advised us on many other pertinent issues that relevant to our jazz project. This support has proven to be essential in driving the audience in the direction of our venue and events programme over the years.

Should you require any clarification with regards to this recommendation letter, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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