



Rockville 2069: A Rock Musical set to challenge the status quo

A contemporary rock musical that sees over 60 artists and musicians from different cultural and musical backgrounds collaborate on a love story set against the backdrop of a post-apocalyptic world, **Rockville 2069** draws from a rich well of talent to bring audiences a deftly wrought production that is set to challenge the status quo.

The musical is the creative brainchild of composer Johnny Ray, who dreamed up the concept of communicating the story through a graphic novel after attending a comic festival, having noticed a gap in the market for a production that combines the current zeitgeist taste for sweeping sci-fi fantasies with a decidedly lyrical mode of execution. It was then decided to further explore the sci-fi theme by means of a graphic novel that would serve to launch the new-fangled epic on both the music- and literary scenes.

Interest in the project was widespread and Ray had his pick from creatives who wanted to be involved. In the end it was Espresso, the graphic team under direction of Brendan Mitchell, alongside story board artist Leandro van der Westhuizen who made the cut. Illustrator Mary Jane Oliver later joined the team in the rendering stage. Technical production began in earnest three months ago and has culminated in a 40-page graphic novel that provides an engaging visual journey and perfectly complements the soundtrack. Encased in a beautifully designed LP cover, the style elements of the novel is said to seamlessly merge 'retro' with 'techno' and to be a feast for the eye.



Sneak peak of the graphic novel

But while the graphic novel may provide an enhanced experience, it is the musical itself that is currently creating a stir among would-be audiences. The unique nature of the project provides an exciting showcase for a varied group of dynamic vocalists, including the likes of Joseph Clark, Andries Botha and Michael Naranjo.

Joseph Clark has an extensive ballet and musical theatre background and is known for his sought-after corporate entertainment in South Africa, Europe, USA. He recently returned from the Netherlands as lead vocalist in The Queen Experience staged in Gelredome Soccer Stadium to over 30,000 people, as well as 13 concerts in The Hague and Amsterdam's Rai Theatre.

Andries Botha, on the other hand, is a prolific homegrown talent known for his incredible range and vocal ability that includes everything from heavy metal to classical compositions. Having recently made his mark on the audio-visual and arrangements scene, Botha is also recognised for his work on the 'Boetie' show with Werner Fensham, his lead guitar spot in the band that featured on 'Dis hoe dit is, met Steve'-show on kykNET, as well as his acclaimed album 'Blou Planeet'.

Michael Naranjo - Hailed as one of the best songwriters the South African industry has to offer, Michael found his calling as music producer while working at the David Gresham recording studio.

With this type of talent bolstering the production, it is no wonder the announcement of the show is causing such a stir. Keep an eye out for upcoming showcases on more of the artists involved.

Concert for the CD Launch of Rockville 2069 takes place on Saturday the 18th of August at Kelvin Grove in Newlands, Cape Town. Doors open at 20h00, show starts at 20h30. Do not miss this once-in-a-lifetime show!

Tickets:

R 120 – R 400 per person at Webtickets:

<http://www.webtickets.co.za/event.aspx?itemid=379823991>

Standard ticket price: R 120

This would exclude the graphic novel and CD, but would include a ticket to the concert, welcome drinks and food (and after celebration of sushi and champagne).

The graphic novel and CD will be on sale afterwards.

Premium ticket price: R 285

Food and refreshments on arrival, and a special edition gift pack which includes the graphic novel and the CD. After party includes sushi and champagne.

Please note: If a couple only require one graphic novel and CD - it's R 200 per person - which means R400 in total.

For more information, visit the following social media links:

Website: www.rockville2069.com/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/rockville2069arockmusical

Twitter: twitter.com/Rockville2069

Youtube: www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=qa7U3OmEQ7E

Tumblr: <http://www.tumblr.com/blog/rockville2069>

Media contact:

For more information, media accreditation to the show, high res images and/or interview requests please contact Ice Carstens at info@icecarstens.co.za