

Ernie Smith



By [Martin Myers](#)

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Ernie Smith is an award-winning South African recording artist.

He has recorded with the likes of Jonathan Butler, Kirk Whallum, Neville D, and Bebe Winans. Smith is synonymous with fine craftsmanship of quality contemporary jazz and urban music. He is possessed with the rare talent of appealing to music lovers from a wide spectrum of tastes and his unflappable work ethic has seen him remain at the top of his game for more than 12 years.



This week, he will be appearing at the Soweto International Jazz Festival from 14 -17 June 2018 alongside Grammy award-winning R&B icon Charlie Wilson, reggae legends Third World, R&B songstress Deborah Cox, Bob James, Spyrogyra, The Neville Brothers, The Libertation Project, Lady Zamar ,Mi Casa, Sipho 'Hotstix' Mabuse, and many more.



Deborah Cox, Third World to perform at Soweto International Jazz Festival

11 Jun 2018



I caught up with Ernie in the midst of rehearsals, last week.

■ ***What does music mean to you?***

Music my voice and my home. It is an extension of myself and a medium of expressing how I feel about the world. I believe music is a gift that God gave me to praise him and make people happy.

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

It is so amazing to me when I hear an idea in my head and then go through the pleasure of hearing it become a song. I guess, as a man, it's the closest I will come to birthing a baby.

■ ***What drives you: ego or humility?***

I am always humbled to understand the amazing power of possessing a gift that has the power to touch people's hearts and affect the course of their lives.

■ ***Any funny moments on stage?***

A lady in one of my performances who wanted me to take a sweet from her mouth whilst I was performing!

■ ***It's your round what are you drinking?***

Ginger beer.

■ ***If you were not a musician what would you do?***

A comedian.

■ ***Pick five words to describe yourself?***

Father, husband, friend, persistent, and spiritual.

■ ***What is your favourite word?***

Grace.



■ ***Favourite fashion garment?***

Magents and bespoke suits by Frank Bespoke.

■ ***Give us some real proper slang and what it means***

You must *raak vol with ball*; it means you must wake up.

■ ***Happiness is?***

Being at peace knowing I am where I'm supposed to be.

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

Exactly where I am.

■ ***Wishes and dreams for 2018?***

To launch my career worldwide and get my kids into gymnastics.

Social media

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Twitter: [@ErnieSmithzn](#)

Instagram: [@erniesmith](#)

ABOUT MARTIN MYERS

Co-owner at Triple M Entertainment, founder Music Exchange, manager Sipho Hotstix Mabuse

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