

PROPOSAL

The Silundika Family Trust & The Silundika Family
Foundation presents:



2021 Commemorative ZC Nkobi Photo Exhibition Proposal



40th ANNIVERSARY OF
ZIMBABWE'S INDEPENDENCE

Commemorative Gallery Exhibition
Project
(The Zenzo Nkobi Heritage
Gallery)

Updated: 9 August 2020

Table of Content

Organizations and Contact Information	2
Key Contact person:	2
Registration and legal status:	2
Total amount needed:.....	2
Geographical coverage.....	3
Status	3
Senior Management.....	3
Objectives.....	3
Organizational vision	3
Introduction	3
Background.....	4
Expected Outcomes.....	5
Beneficiaries.....	5
Anticipated Expenditures.....	6

Project Title:

40th Anniversary of Zimbabwe's Independence Commemorative Gallery Exhibition (The Zenzo Nkobi Heritage Gallery)

Venue:

The TG Silundika Cultural Community Centre at Gala Village, Ward 6- Bulilima District, Zimbabwe

Date: TBA (due to Covid-19)

Organizations and Contact Information

Zimbabwe Office

The Netherlands Office

The Silundika Family Trust TG Silundika Cultural Community Centre Ward 6 Bulima District PO Box 141 Plumtree, Zimbabwe Project Manager: Felix Silundika Tel.: +966 530930271 Chairman: Mfundo Tsambani Tel. +263 77 382 9630 Email: tgsilundikaculturalcommunitycentre@gmail.com	Stichting: The Silundika Family Foundation & Zenzo Nkobi Heritage Gallery Gravin Juliana van Stolberglaan 31 Unit A1950 2263AB Leidschendam The Netherlands Treasurer: Tina Nkobi Tel.: +31643600921
---	---

Key Contact person:

Project Manager Felix F. Silundika
Mobile Tel. +966 530930271

Registration and legal status:

Trust Registration Number MA 7/2008
Stichting KvK Nr 63243466

Total amount needed:

USD\$8,000

Geographical coverage

Gala Communal Area, Ward 6 Bulilima District, Matabeleland South Province

Status

This is a new initiative

Senior Management

Mr Felix F Silundika- Project Manager & Founder

Tel.: +966 530930271

Mr. Mfundo Tsambani – Chairman TG Silundika Cultural Community Centre :

Tel.: +263 77 382 9630

Objectives

- to display and exhibit 500, the first batch of the thousands of images of the liberation struggle captured by the late Zenzo Nkobi
- to honour and commemorate the sacrifice made by Zimbabweans during the struggle
- to highlight the historical significance of ZAPU's contribution in the country's liberation
- to initiate a process of open dialogue, discussion and debate on the various issues surrounding the liberation struggle

Organizational vision

To establish a standard of excellence in cultural heritage sustainability and community development in Southern Africa

Introduction

This is a project proposal to hold a commemorative photo gallery exhibition at the TG Silundika Cultural Community Centre. The exhibition's main feature will be 500 photographs (the first batch) of the thousands of images of the liberation struggle captured by the late Zenzo Nkobi during the liberation struggle. With video and multi-media programs, visitors will learn more about the history of the liberation struggle from the Zapu perspective. Thousands of the remaining Zenzo Nkobi Gallery photos will eventually be printed and stored permanently at the TG Silundika Cultural Community Centre and accessible to ordinary citizens, research parties and historians.

Background

Zenzo Nkobi first took up the camera as a form of "Avtomat Kalashnikova 1947 (AK47) rifle", a lot of people back then would have looked at him, wondering at what contributions was he making towards liberating the country. Most would have laughed at him seeing him walking around the Zipra camps with his cameras and lenses, "shooting" at everything he thought relevant.

However, 40 years after the country attained its Independence, Nkobi's contribution to the liberation struggle is becoming obvious. His works are becoming even more relevant as historians and ordinary citizens are now largely relying on his photographic works to chronicle Zapu and Zipra's contribution to the liberation struggle and further give a timeline to the journey to Independence.

Zenzo was born at Dombodema Mission, in south-western Zimbabwe in Bulilima. Nkobi's father Thomas Nkobi, left Zimbabwe for South Africa soon after Zenzo was born where he spent the rest of his life in politics, rising to the top echelons of the African National Congress. Zenzo remained in Zimbabwe, where he was raised by his mother and went to school, trained as a teacher, and then went to teach at a rural school not far from the Botswana border. As a teacher, Zenzo was to encounter the cruelty of the colonial government once more when he was accused of teaching small kids anti-Smith songs and this was indeed true as he would compose some songs in tjiKalanga or iSiNdebele which were talking about the regime. He then crossed the border to Botswana with the intention of joining the armed struggle. From Botswana he went to Lusaka where he made contact with ZAPU, Zimbabwe African People's Union. It was at that time that he first made the acquaintance of his father and developed a close relationship with him, as they were now both engaged in the liberation struggle within the region. He then worked within the publicity department in ZAPU offices, providing photographs for many ZAPU publications.

He then went to German Democratic Republic (East Germany) on a scholarship to be trained as a photographer. He studied there for several years, proceeding beyond the first degree to complete a Master's program.

He returned to Lusaka on numerous occasions and became something resembling an official or semi-official photographer for ZAPU. He met and married Edelgard, a German woman and they raised two daughters together, eventually settling in Bulawayo after 1980.

During the armed struggle he accompanied the ZAPU President, Joshua Nkomo, on numerous occasions, both to the military and refugee camps in Zambia and to international meetings and recorded the activities on film.

Because of his talent behind the lens Caroline Mhlanga, another ZAPU cadre who had been sent by ZAPU to also study photography described Nkobi saying;

"... he made me understand photography better. I came to like it, you know, so that each time you know I saw a project I was looking at it as a picture, through him, and each time he saw whatever, even passing animals or anything, he would remind you that that is a picture, that is an object." (as quoted in the SAHA profile on Nkobi).

Despite his father being an ANC stalwart, he remained as a committed ZAPU member who fought the struggle using his camera.

"He met his father in Lusaka because he had not seen him. His father had spent all the time in South Africa but was now in exile with the ANC. George Silundika introduced the two but he never became part of the ANC, he was always ZAPU, although he was very close to his father from that point..." (as quoted in the SAHA profile on Nkobi).

Zenzo returned to Zimbabwe before Independence and began recording the events of the 1980 election campaign. After Independence he continued chronicling public and political events, particularly those relating to ZAPU. He eventually joined the staff at the Bulawayo Polytechnic where he taught photography until he suddenly passed in 1993. Tina Nkobi, one of his daughters have preserved a great number of negatives after their father's death and will feature them as part of a project in collaboration with The Silundika Family Trust and the

Many previously unseen photographs of the late Vice-President Dr Joshua Nkomo and other liberation stalwarts will be shown as part of the [Zenzo Nkobi Heritage Gallery Exhibition](#).

Expected Outcomes

The general key deliverable of this project is to create an enlightened society which is conscious of the sacrifices made during the war of independence; a society that is proud of its history.

Beneficiaries

Even though the people of Bulilima District are the direct beneficiary of this project, Zimbabweans in general will find connection with the war time experiences of the brave men and women who played a part in the country's liberation. Academics and researchers will find a wealth of material to help their research. Bulilima District will benefit directly from the local and international tourism this project will generate.

Anticipated Expenditures

Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Amount
Location Site Rental (TGSC Community Centre)		free	
Banners	5	\$50.00	\$250,00
Catalogue Design/Production/Printing			\$500,00
Gallery Sitter's Fee	5	\$100.00	\$500,00
Name Tags	500	\$0.50	\$200,00
Printing			\$500,00
Reception: (Catering -All Occasion Catering & Events Company)		\$1000.00	\$1000,00
Security	5	\$100.00	\$500,00
Wall Paint		\$100.00	\$100,00
TOTAL			\$3,650,00



Preserving and Promoting the Kalanga Cultural Heritage