

My name is Apiwe Bubu.

I've given my all for the sake of music.
I need to create and play.

In my world, it's music first.

In growing as a person I've put creativity as an ultimate form of human existence and through living out creativity in my life everyday, experience human essence daily and monumentally.

As far back as I can remember I've always been a fan of music...Kwaito, House music, Rock, Blues, Hip Hop & Jazz. I grew up on Michael Jackson discovered the likes of Bob Dylan, Fela Kuti, Jimi Hendrix, Miles Davis and Thelonius Monk.

-I've always been a forever young old souled music spirit.

I knew music was inside me as I dj'd when I was in highschool. I knew I was passionate about it when I dropped out of Wits University studying Aeronautical Engineering to study Sound Engineering. But I didn't really wake up to my potential and talent till I was employed as a junior music composer at Urban Brew studios when I was 21. I hadn't consistently played the piano since highschool and in working as a composer, rekindled my chemistry with the instrument and began the challenge to make up for lost time.

Since then I never looked back! I realized there was so much more and magical in the music making process and decided to dedicate my life to the practice and mastery of this art. I soon enrolled in a 2 year Professional certificate course in the online extension school of Berklee College of Music, Berkleemusic.com, from which I graduated 2007.

I struggled and sacrificed much to get to the level of musicianship that one usually takes a lifetime to realize. I've been steadfast and sometimes uncompromising in my goal. I auditioned four times before I got accepted, beginning the journey in Maputo Mozambique to Durban South Africa, Nairobi Kenya and finally Cape Town. I traveled to the foreign countries not knowing anyone, and upon arrival the only thing that frankly mattered to me was getting to a piano. It is what I live for.

I put in many hours practicing, learning and writing music in a studio I built over numerous years, which is where most of my time and life revolved, almost exclusively. There were times I would practice 8 hours a day, sometimes 6, sometimes less, but each was fuelled by a deep desire to grow and hone my skills. A man who made that goal all the more possible was my mentor, South African renowned and award winning jazz pianist Andile Yenana. All this was done, ultimately so that I could successfully audition to enroll in an undergrad degree major in Contemporary Writing and Production at Berklee College of Music. A school considered to be the best contemporary music college in the world. And I strongly believe, to be the best you have to learn from the best.

Berklee is the epitome of excellence in art, a college that lives by its philosophy and for the excellence of music creation and performance. It's in line with my purpose and is the best historically and otherwise suited programme or college to take me to the next level.

I'm not interested in short cuts and appreciate the journey. It all makes for a richer story, texture in the music, and a sound that will be distinctly mine.