



Press Release

GRAMMY-NOMINEE JOHNNY CLEGG TO PERFORM FINAL JOURNEY WORLD TOUR AT DUBAI OPERA

Dubai UAE, 26 April 2017 – Dubai Opera is delighted to announce that Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter Johnny Clegg will take to the stage at Dubai Opera for one night only on 20 September. Nearly forty years after he first exploded onto the international music scene, Johnny Clegg will bring his unique Western/South African hybrid rhythms to life on the Dubai Opera stage as part of his final world tour, titled 'The Final Journey'. Tickets will go on sale on Thursday, 27 April at 9am, starting from AED 250.

Johnny Clegg: The Final Journey World Tour represents the peak of a career that has combined international success with sustained – and significant – social, political and cultural impact. With a career spanning almost forty years, Johnny Clegg pioneered a uniquely South African, hybrid music during a time of cultural and racial segregation. Through his bands Juluka and Savuka, he created a vibrant blend of Western pop and African Zulu rhythms, which helped to break down barriers in South Africa, offering a vision of how South Africans could find each other and the possibilities of a non-racial future.

Through his music, Johnny Clegg also provided a portal for international audiences to gain a deeper understanding of the anti-apartheid movement and the journey towards, and ultimately into, freedom. This work has seen him receive many honours, including an OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire), the South African Order of Ikhamanga and the French Chevalier des Arts et Lettres (Knight of Arts and Letters), as well as several honorary doctorates.

'The Final Journey' tour will see Johnny Clegg's many different hits and live favourites brought to life by the biggest production ever created for a Clegg live show, supported by his world-class live band. A highlight of the show will be the different styles of dance that have been integral to Clegg's life and work, ever since he learnt the fundamentals of Zulu music and traditional Zulu Inhlangwinini dancing with Charlie Mzila while still a teenager. Fans can also look forward to an unparalleled repertoire of songs which began with the release of Juluka's *Universal Men* in 1979 and continued through the Savuka years, as well as his more recent solo work.

Speaking about his 'Final Journey' tour, Johnny Clegg, said: "This will be my final set of public performances for my fans in SA and around the world. I am immensely excited to be able to bring to them an autobiographical, audiovisual and intimate account of my life through my music and The Dance. "

Jasper Hope, Chief Executive at Dubai Opera, commented: "Johnny Clegg is a singer/songwriter whose music has meant so much to South Africans and lovers of his sound around the world for more than 30 years. I am absolutely delighted he has agreed to



include Dubai Opera on his Final Journey World Tour to give audiences here the chance to enjoy his live show one last time.”

For full details please visit: www.dubaiopera.com

Tickets will be available from 9am on 27th April at www.dubaiopera.com

For more information on Johnny Clegg, please visit: <https://www.johnnyclegg.com>

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Note to Editors

About Dubai Opera:

Dubai Opera is a truly unique venue and the city’s first purpose built multi-format performing arts theatre, situated in the heart of Downtown Dubai. With an iconic dhow shaped design rooted in Emirati heritage, Dubai Opera offers the ultimate flexibility of a proscenium arch theatre, an acoustic concert hall and a 2000m2 flat floor event space, and is the definitive destination for quality entertainment productions and performances. Dubai Opera's stage will host an incredible array of world-class talent, with opera, ballet and classical music concerts and productions at the core, Dubai Opera will also stage musical theatre, fashion shows, jazz, comedy, family shows and a full range of live entertainment.

www.dubaiopera.com

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