

Nostalgia hits hard at The Whitney Houston Show

By  Juanita Pienaar

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It was quite cold on the opening night of The Greatest Love of All - The Whitney Houston Show, a tribute concert held at the Artscape theatre on Wednesday, 21 June 2017. However, people still came out in their masses to celebrate the late iconic pop star and her music.

A sizzling excitement was in the air, fuelled by the arrival of several celebrities. I spotted a few including, comedian, Marc Lottering, *Expresso* presenters, Zoë Brown and Leigh-Anne Williams, actor and TV personality, Siv Ngesi, singer and actor, Emo Adams and former South African cricketer, Paul Adams.



© [The Whitney Houston Show website](#)

Whitney Fans Unite

We were seated in the middle section of the theatre and had a good view of the stage. I was impatiently waiting for the show to start but everyone else was busy greeting, hugging and waving at each other. It felt like we were part of a huge family reunion – Whitney fans unite? Before I knew it, I too started spotting quite a lot of familiar faces, friends, acquaintances, former colleagues – wow, it really was a reunion! Nonetheless, I was delighted when the lights went dark, signalling that the show was about to start.

From the moment Belinda Davids started singing, she had the crowd at her feet. It was remarkable how much she, not only sounded like Houston, but also resembled the pop icon. She had an instant connection with the crowd, especially when she greeted everyone as Belinda from PE in Afrikaans.



#Music Exchange: Belinda Davids

Martin Myers 21 Jun 2017



True celebration of Whitney's music

Although Davids encouraged the crowd to sing along, they needed no invitation. I felt that the audience was a bit reluctant

clapping along when it was requested but they really committed to singing every single song with her. Hits like, *How Will I Know*, *Where Do Broken Hearts Go*, *One Moment in Time* and *I'm Every Woman*. These songs are very difficult to sing but Davids hit all the high notes and never took any short cuts. She took us there with every song and even when there seemed to be sound issues nearing the end of the show, she pulled through like the pro she is.

She received several standing ovations, the biggest one after she performed, *I Have Nothing* while a video of Whitney performing it in a similar red dress (or the same?) playing on a big screen in the background. It was eerie the way Davids got Houston's mannerisms down to a T. The singer even took a walk through the venue and greeted eager fans whilst performing *Saving All My Love For You* - still hitting those insane notes.

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@davidsbelinda up close and personal at the #whitneyhoustonshow

A post shared by Juanita Pienaar (@nitapita777) on Jun 21, 2017 at 9:52pm PDT

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The entire performance gave me goose bumps. It really felt like I was at a Whitney Houston concert and not a tribute show. "A true celebration of the singer's music when she was at the top of her game", like Davids so eloquently put it at the end of the show. I walked out of the theatre feeling renewed, restored and energised. It was 10:30pm and I was determined to head home and search for my Whitney: The Greatest Hits CD, hoping to hold on to that heart-stirring nostalgia a little while longer.

Tickets are available at [Computicket](#) and the show is running from 22 June 2017 – 16 July 2017 at the Artscape Theatre in Cape Town.

ABOUT JUANITA PIENAAR

Juanita is the editor of the marketing & media portal on the Bizcommunity website. She is also a contributing writer.

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