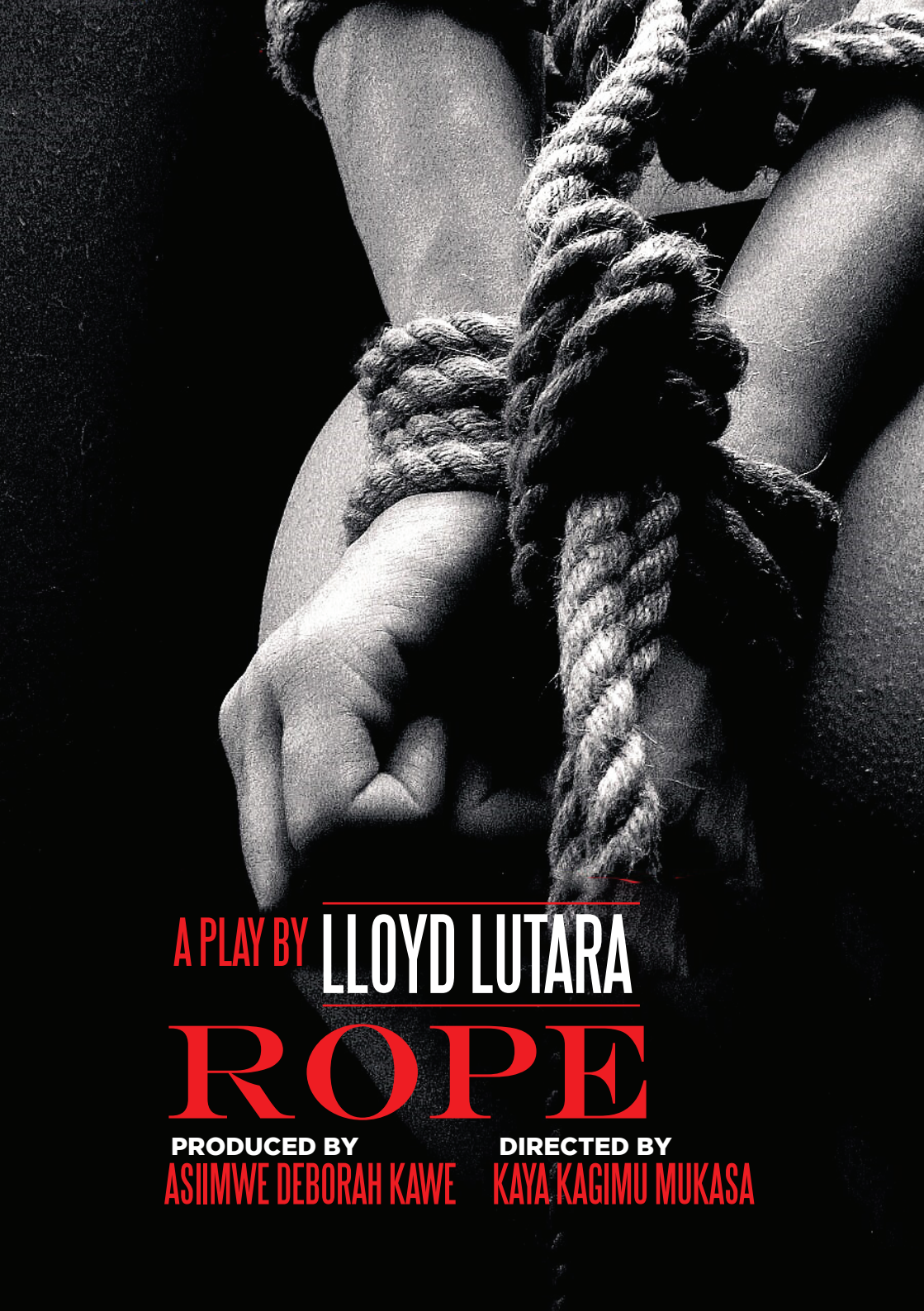




A PLAY BY **LLOYD LUTARA**

ROPE

PRODUCED BY
ASHIMWE DEBORAH KAWA

DIRECTED BY
KAYA KAGIMU MUKASA

BRIEF ON THE PLAY ROPE

ROPE is a whodunnit written by Lloyd Lutara and is about the noose of lies a group of individuals tie around their necks when the daughter of a prominent Kampala tycoon turned politician goes missing.

The play puts the audience in the seat of the investigator and leaves them to wrestle with the tangled knot of lies and to figure out who is lying about what and why.

Lloyd Lutara has been telling stories ever since he can remember. Over the years his prose has appeared in numerous publications including The East African, Kalahari Review and Daily Monitor. His work in television includes The Hostel (2015), Balikoowa in the City (2016) Five at Home (2017), Kyadala (2019) amongst others. His film writing credits include the short films Happy Anniversary (2014), Day 256 (2017) and the soon to be released Suubi's Prayer. His play A Ghost Story was staged at the 2018 Kampala International Theater Festival while 2020 saw him as playwright-in-residence under the Tebere Arts Mid-Career Playwright's Residency with his whodunnit Rope. A reading of Rope was screened during the online edition of the 2021 Kampala International Theater Festival.

He is currently working on his next piece The House Okello Built.

→ **PLAYWRIGHT**
LLOYD LUTARA



THE PRODUCER'S NOTE:

On behalf of Tebere Arts Foundation and on my own behalf, I would like to welcome you and thank you for coming to the world premiere of *Rope* by Lloyd Lutara!

We are so excited to be sharing this story whose developed we were so honored to have supported. Lloyd Lutara is a writer we love and admire. Having curated his work at the Kampala International Theatre Festival, we were so thrilled to welcome him in our mid-career and established playwrights residency in 2020 where he developed *Rope*. Each year, we select one play from the previous cohorts of mid-career and established playwrights and give it a full production, and we could not be more thrilled to be sharing Lloyd's skilled writing with you!

Please allow me to tell you a little bit about Tebere Arts Foundation; "Tebere" is a word in Runkanyore /Rukiga language which could translate to "continue telling your story". In light of this, Tebere's larger vision is to support the growth of Uganda's theatre industry by creating a residency for mid-career and established theatre makers as well as commissioning them to create new work, create an incubator for emerging artists to develop their own work and artistic practice, and for all to continue to tell their own stories. Inspired by the lack of adequate access to conservatory performing arts training, the absence of a support system to create new work and the gradual erasure of performing in non-conventional spaces, Tebere organizes annual workshops, residencies and creative lab series that provide artists with adequate resources to develop their work. This serves as an extension of the Kampala International Theatre Festival –

KITF (<https://kampalainternationaltheatrefestival.com/>)

After two years of no or limited artistic activities, we are thankful to be able to bring our constituents together again, to enjoy the uniqueness of live performance again and appreciate the gift of being together in one physical space in real time.

I would like to thank everyone who has made the production on *Rope* possible; the playwright, Lloyd Lutara for entrusting us with his story, the director, Kaya Kagimu Mukasa for putting the production together, the actors for breathing life into Lloyd's words, the crew for giving the complete picture to the performance, the emerging artists 2022/23 cohort for shadowing in every department and making sure that everything works seamlessly, Tebere Arts Foundation staff who work so HARD and behind the scene to make sure that every artist who walks through our doors gets an experience of a life time.

In a very special way, I want to thank our partners who make it possible for us to execute our programs, Stichting DOEN Foundation, Alliance Française Kampala, Ndere Cultural Centre, USA for Africa, The Swiss Arts Council and Goethe Zentrum-Kampala.

THANK YOU!

Asiimwe Deborah Kawe
Producing Artistic Director
Tebere Arts Foundation

→ **DIRECTOR**

KAYA KAGIMU MUKASA



Kaya Kagimu Mukasa is the Founder of Arts Treasure Uganda a consulting company in the field of Creative Arts. Film Arts Practitioner; Actress, Director, Writer for Stage, Radio, TV, Film and Community Theatre. A Workshop Facilitator, Radio Drama Consultant, Arts and Project Manager.

An Alumna of Kyambogo University (Education), Makerere University (Department of Performing Arts and Film), Cambridge Tutorial College UK (Modern Management), Royal Court International Residency UK (Acting/Directing/Writing). Currently pursuing a Masters in Project Management from Rochester Institute of Technology, Cambridge UK an Ivy League University – Online.

Recently directed Dr. Charles Mulekwa's Man to Man in the Tebere Mid-Career Playwright Residency (Play Reading on 21 April 2022 at Ndere Centre)

Plays written and directed by Kaya; The Present, I'll Tell Your Father, At The End Of The Tunnel, What Language Does The Wind Speak? Grave Robber Services, Rhythm of My Chaos, My Maid and I, What Do You Do When You Don't Know What To Do? All the plays were performed at Uganda National Theatre and Cultural Centre.

Someone Cares, Collin's Journey, Hopeful, were performed upcountry.

Directed Namu Lwanga's The Mask (Performed at Woolly Mammoth Theatre USA).

Directed Sam Lutaaya's Marriage Chronicles performed at KITF 2015.

Also directed legendary Wycliff Kiyingi's Muduuma Kwe Kwaffe, Byron Kawadwa's Makula Ga Kulabako, John Ruganda's The Burdens and Wole Soyinka's The Lion and The Jewel also performed at Uganda National Theatre and Cultural Centre, to mention but a few.

Over the 20 years plus in the Creative Arts Industry, Kaya has been mentored and inspired by the best in 15 countries for which she is eternally grateful. She in turn would like to share her experiences, inspire and mentor young Creative Artists to be the best versions of what they aspire to be.

Having been blessed to take part in drama/theatre related projects in 15 countries, Kaya would like share her 20 plus years of experience with and inspire young creatives to become professional meaningful specifics in the field of creative arts.



→ **STAGE MANAGER**

LINUS MUGUME

Linus Mugume is an all-round Theatre Arts professional who majors in writing, stage management, producing and Applied Theatre.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree of Arts in Drama and Film from Makerere University Department of Performing Arts and Film. He has written stage and screen play scripts like Same Girl (both stage and film); Cross Roads, during his internship at Amari Uganda (a rehabilitation centre for former street children), The Family Darling, My Two Best Friends, The Set-up, among others. His inspiration to write comes from listening to what people say and what they do thereafter. People can speak something but do completely different things afterwards, and that is drama! Linus was part of the Tebere Arts Foundation Intensive Lab Programme in the cohort of 2021-2022.

Linus was part of the cast on the recently concluded The Merchant of Venice production in Kampala. He does stage management, and has also done theatre administration on a number of theatre productions like; Ruined by Lyn Nottage where he worked under renowned playwright, actor and director, Dr Charles

Mulekwa; Pursuit for Fairness where he worked under seasoned theatre director and academician, Dr Jessica Kaahwa; and The Young People's Theatre Script Development Project - a project nearing completion where he has been working as an assistant researcher and administrator under Prof Patrick Mangeni, Ms Lillian Mbabazi and Ms Allen Tushemeirwe; among others.

Linus is part of a team of authors that occasionally work with Niche Kreatives - an authoring company that currently works in partnership with New Vision to author books that conform to the new NCDC Lower Secondary School Curriculum. With Niche, Linus works as an editor on the Performing Arts panel

→ ACTORS



MWANJA ALLAN SAMUEL

is a theatre, radio, television and film practitioner who happens to have started in 2015 with Theatre Factory as an actor in Laugh times (theatre) and The campus (screen drama) Thirty Years of Bananas (Theatre drama). He has worked with Merryheart production since 2019 as an actor, director and producer. He has also worked as Theatre Creative Director with silent voices Uganda where he directed 'For colored boys that considered colored girls when what was wasn't enough' and 'All Ok' where also trained as a theatre director.

He has worked with Buddies Productions as an Actor, dubbing a television series Taste of love where he also worked as a gaffer and a sound man. In 2019 he joined Population Media Centre

As a Voice over Actor in Sotakai as Simba, in Akakunizo as Musoke and in Dunga as Baba Dan. In 2020 he worked with fhi 360-Uganda as a voice over actor.

For television he joined in 2016 where he acted in a television series 'Hostel serenity', Balikooowa in the city', 'kojjas'. In 2020 he worked with Ava Juliet production as a Production manager for Prestige Television series. Currently he works with fused dots as a line producer.

BOB KASIKI

I am a writer, editor, actor and director. I am engaged in radio, stage and screen dramas.

Currently, I am working with Nabwiso Films, on the Sanyu Television serial, both as an actor and script editor.



BRENDA IBARAH

is a multi-passionate storyteller with a decade long experience working in film, television, theatre, radio and other mediums. She started out as a show presenter at WBS TV and later moved into scriptwriting and producing for different media houses including NBS and NTV. She has also worked in radio as a presenter at Hot 100, Radio City and Nxt Radio among others. She has written for publications like Afroelle Magazine and ElleAfrique Magazine which celebrate the achievements of African women at home and in the diaspora. Her performances in film and theatre include 'A Good Catholic Girl' (2010), 'Imbabazi: The Pardon' (2013), '5@Home' (2015), 'A Ghost Story' (2018) and 'Suubi's Prayer' (2022). Ibarah just concluded the yearlong Emerging Artist Lab at Tebere Arts Foundation where she trained in theatre arts and also wrote the play 'Make Room' which was performed as a staged reading. She is currently diving into filmmaking as a writer and director.



BRENDA IBARAH

Eronie Bazongere Nalongo is an Actress who started way back in 1990 while pursuing her 'O level Education. She then joined Bakayimbira Dramactors and has had stage appearances in over 20 plays including Silent Voices in 2015, GAAd in 2016 and "The Marriage Chronicles" a Kampala International Theatre Festival Production 2015.

Key play credits to her are Berejje, Kigenya Agents, Bukedde Banyanike etc and Bakayimbira's Masterpiece play Ndiwulira that toured in at Nykoping town theatre in Sweden and Stratford Old Town Hall in London in 1996.

She featured in the film "Horizon" and TV series The Hostel, Balikooa, The Luktas and apparently in The Kojja.

Eronie Bazongere Nalongo was the winner of the Uganda Theatrical Groups Association Best Actress Award in 1993 in Berejje.



GLORIA ACHILLAH

is a creative visionary and an avid arts enthusiast working as a writer and performer. She got her start as a freelance journalist and holds a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Mass Communication. She has amassed a decade long experience performing as a live contemporary singer. For over five years she was a vocalist with Band Zola, a five-man acoustic outfit. She then worked with Qwela Band for a little over a year alongside some of Uganda's most reputable musicians; before branching out to pursue songwriting and performance as a solo musician. Her solo music journey brought her to various platforms within the city of Kampala such as Aka Dope, Doa Doa, Sofar, Blankets and Wine, as well as the Safaricom International Jazz festival of 2018 in Nairobi. Gloria aspires to write for Film and Theatre and has recently completed an acting program with Yenze Theatre Conservatoire.



RIVER DAN RUGAJU

is a Ugandan actor known for his television debut role as Ojangole in the drama series YAT MADIT aired on NTV Uganda in 2016. Shortly after, Rugaju combined his acting ability and fluent French skills to land a French speaking role as Capitaine in La Miséricorde de la Jungle (2018), a Neon Rouge war thriller directed by Joel Karekezi. Rugaju plays Josh Walusimbi in Loukman Ali's 2020 Netflix release The Girl in the Yellow Jumper. He also portrays Topher Agaba in the Ugandan guerilla war biopic 27 GUNS (2018), and Dr. Sky Kashaka in Savannah MOON's MELA (2019).

In 2017 at Theatre in the Park, Harare Zimbabwe, Rugaju played double roles as White American Cop and White American Journalist in BLOOD - a published modern day adaptation of the classic African American playwright Lorraine Hansberry's Les Blancs, as written and directed by Prince Claus Laureate, Adong L. Judith. Rugaju is an alumnus of the Tebere Arts Foundation's annual Emerging Artists Intensive Theatre Lab, as a member of the pioneer cohort of 2019.

Rugaju holds a Degree in Education with French majors from Makerere University, a professional skillset that he continues to utilize as an actor, recently landing a French language monologue dubbing job with Quad-A Studios. Rugaju loves to compose, sing, and plays musical instruments including the piano, adungu and the trumpet.

→ EAI LAB PARTICIPANTS

Emerging Artists Intensive Lab is an initiative for Ugandan Emerging Artists interested in theatre and performance for live audiences where they are given an opportunity to be mentored by established theatre-makers from Uganda and elsewhere.

Through lectures and hands-on work on projects developed throughout the lab, the focus is on helping each emerging artist acquire skills in various fields in the arts so that they discover their unique artistic voice.

Each class is designed in such a way that the artists are tasked to critically think and interrogate their involvement in the Arts, their existing passions, and the skills they seek to develop while in residency.



**ANTHONY
OMUNA MARY**



**DANIEL
MUSHABE
AGABA**



ENIDY BACIA



HENRY KANYIKE



MUSA MUKIIBI



**NORMAN
SSENTUMBWE
KABUZA**



ROGERS KASOZI



**RUTH
NABUSHAWO**



SANDRA ANENA



SHARON AZIKU

→ **WORD FROM PARTNERS**

TEBERE ARTS FOUNDATION AND ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE KAMPALA COOPERATION

The Alliance Française de Kampala is a non-profit organization fostering cultural and linguistic exchanges between France and Kampala since 1954. Its main mission is teaching French language and promoting arts and culture.

We offer a steady progression allowing our students to meet both their personal and professional objectives. We help our community, whether members, artists or students, to craft their future through establishing a dialogue of cultures.

With the aim of promoting social cohesion and the performing arts, Alliance Française de Kampala partnered with the Tebere Arts Foundation to produce a new theatre play, *The ROPE*, written by the renowned playwright - Lloyd Lutara.

We have provided a plush 150-seat rehearsal space with a stage dimension of 600m (l) x 350m (w) x 20m (h), professionally equipped with a complete sound and lighting system, and a changing room.

Alliance Française de Kampala aims to give opportunities and support to our partners and Ugandan cultural actors. We are proud to have collaborated with Tebere Arts Foundation to promote Ugandan theatre and to be the first cultural organization to host 'The ROPE'!



→ OUR SPONSORS

