

## Curriculum Vitae:

### Personal Information:

**Name:** Ryan  
**Surname:** Dittmann  
**Address:** 50 Dorset Road  
Parkwood  
Johannesnurg  
2193

**Cell Phone Number:** +27 82 2612560  
**Email address:** [ryan.ditt@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.ditt@gmail.com)  
**Twitter:** @Ryan\_ditt  
**Instagram:** @zikkazimba  
**Facebook:** @ZikkaZimbaProductions  
**Website:** <https://www.zikkazimba.co.za/>  
**Artist Representation:** <http://gaenor.co.za/artists/ryan-dittmann/>  
**IMDb:** <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3248783/>  
**Nationality:** South African  
**Date of Birth:** 17 August 1984  
**Identity Number:** 8408175106084

### Education and Training:

2017: **Discovering Clowning** with Jon Davison (London Clown School)

2016: **Meisner technique** with Raymond T Williams

2012: **Blue Chair Acting programme:** 3 Month performance course

2007: **AFDA Film School:** Post Graduate Certificate in performance

- Subject Methodology: Dramatic Arts
- Major Learning Area: Arts and Culture
- Major Learning Area: screen performace

2004-2006 **Rhodes University:** Bachelor of Arts Degree

- Drama (Directing, Acting and Physical Performance)
- English Language and linguistics

#### University credits obtained:

- Economics
- Psychology
- Ethnomusicology

1999-2002 Michaelhouse School: National Senior Certificate (Matric IEB)

Work Experience:

Theatrical work:

**Hijinks Theatre:**

<https://www.hijinkstheatre.com/>

Hijinks Theatre, established in 2015 by Kirsten Harris is a collaborative South African based production company. The company endeavours to collaboratively produce and incubate theatre that stimulates and develops South African audiences, which in turn contributes to a dynamic, vibrant and sustainable South African cultural economy.

**ZikkaZimba Productions:**

<https://www.zikkazimba.co.za/>

The company is a collaborative South African based production company run by theatre and film practitioners, Ryan Dittmann and Jaques de Silva.

The company employs up to 20 arts practitioners who contribute in various ways to South Africa's thriving cultural economy. In 2017 the company increased this number by constructing a sustainable and rigorous training and mentorship project that has enabled a number of artists to find employment opportunities through the company.

Our trans-sectorial approach to the company means that ZikkaZimba has worked to develop synergies within various South African sectors such as; performing arts, education and the social development sectors.

Theatre companies:

- 2015-present Hijinks Theatre: Actor
- 2016- present ZikkaZimba Productions: Founder, director, performer and educator

Theatrical productions:

- 2019
  - *Flying Solo*: 2019 National Arts Festival: Main Programme (Actor/Producer)
  - *Dr Seuss' Cat in The Hat*: National Children's Theatre (Director)
  - *Fire House*: The Market Theatre (Actor and producer)
  - *Born Naked*: Various Theatres (Producer)
- 2018
  - *Doll*: 2018 Dance Umbrella, Wits Theatre (Actor/dancer)
  - *Born Naked*: 2018 National Arts Festival, POPArt Theatre (Director and co-producer)

- *Fire House*: Various school performances, 2018 National Arts Festival (Actor and producer)
- *Taking Flight*: Various school performances, 2018 National Arts Festival (Actor and co-producer)
- *Whistle Stop*: POPArt, Various School performances, Playhouse Company Durban (Producer)
- 2017
  - *Fire House*: POPArt, 2017 National Arts Festival, Various school performances, Redfest (Actor and Producer)
  - *Taking Flight*: St Stithians Prep School Arts Festival, 2017 National Arts Festival, Various school performances, Hilton Arts Festival, Redfest, University of Johannesburg Con Cowan Theatre (Actor and co-producer)
  - *Welcome to the Zoo*: 2017 National Arts Festival (Producer and Mentor)
  - *Everyman*: Various schools around Johannesburg. Including St Johns College, Parkview and Redhill. (Producer)
  - *Whistle Stop*: Baxter Theatre Centre, 2017 National Arts Festival, Various school performances (Producer)
- 2016
  - *Grief* directed by Lionel Newton Performed at the Jo'burg Fringe Theatre (Actor)
  - *Fire House*: 2016 National Arts Festival (Actor and Producer)
  - *Whistle Stop*: 2016 National Arts Festival, Various school performances, Redfest, Baxter Theatre Centre (Producer)
  - *Aquarium*: POP Art Theatre Johannesburg and Alexander bar Cape Town. (Actor and Producer)
- 2015
  - *The Return of Elvis du Pisanie* featuring Lionel Newton: 2015 National Arts Festival, Various school performances, The Market Theatre (Producer)
- 2013-2016
  - *LAKE*: St Stithians Prep School Arts Festival, 2014, 2015, 2016 National Arts Festival, Various school performances, Cape Town fringe, Festival of Fame, Redfest. (Actor, creator and producer)
- 2012-2015
  - *Stranger Things*: 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 National Arts Festival, Various school performances, Cape Town fringe, Festival of Fame, Redfest. (Actor, creator/writer and producer)
  - *Review*: <http://www.whatsonincapetown.com/post/review-stranger-things-cape-town-fringe/>
- 2005
  - *Plots (Anton Chekhov)* National arts festival performance. (Actor)

## Links and Reviews

<http://cue.ru.ac.za/?s=ZikkaZimba+Productions>

Fire House: (2017 Standard Bank Ovation Award)

Presented by ZikkaZimba Productions and Hijinks Theatre

Directed by Kirsten Harris

Featuring Katlego Letsholonyana, Ryan Dittmann and Tebogo Machaba.

1. <http://thecritter.co.za/fire-house-revisited-municipal-maelstrom-plays-help-us-imagine-the-next-phase/>
2. <http://thecritter.co.za/fire-house/>
3. <https://www.dispatchlive.co.za/lifestyle/arts-festival/2017-07-05-powerful-play-sparks-discussion/>
4. <https://www.thesouthafrican.com/play-about-sa-firefighters-wins-award-at-grahamstown-national-arts-festival/>
5. <http://cue.ru.ac.za/standing-ovation-galleries/>
6. <http://cue.ru.ac.za/south-africa-is-a-house-on-fire/>
7. <http://cue.ru.ac.za/cues-must-see-theatre/>

Welcome to the Zoo (2017 Standard Bank Ovation Award)

Presented by ZikkaZimba Productions and Hijinks Theatre

Directed by Jake Nathane (under mentorship of Hijinks Theatre)

Featuring: Nokulunga Ncongwane, Jean Marr, Abigail Gambo, Josh Gromme, Upile Bonco, Lebogang Mokgatle, Uvile Ximba

1. <http://thecritter.co.za/welcome-to-the-zoo-women-are-beasts-of-burden/>

Taking Flight: (2018 Naledi Theatre Award)

Presented by ZikkaZimba Productions and Hijinks Theatre

Directed by Kirsten Harris

Featuring Ameera Patel/ Frances Slabolepszy, Jaques de Silva, Katlego Letsholonyana, Ryan Dittmann and Tebogo Machaba.

1. <http://cuemedia.co.za/2017/07/05/taking-flight-a-scrumdiddlyumptious-giganticus-razztwizzling-experience/>

Born Naked:

Presented by ZikkaZimba Productions and Hijinks Theatre

Directed by Kirsten Harris

Featuring: Jake Nathane and Lethabo Bereng

1. <http://cue.ru.ac.za/born-this-way-a-pursuit-towards-understanding-gender-transitioning/>
2. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXpc\\_JkHim4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXpc_JkHim4)
3. <http://thecritter.co.za/born-naked/>

### Teaching Experience:

- 2019 Course co-ordinator and Arts- Connector for Dramatic Arts at over 20 High Schools across Gauteng
- 2018 (October – November) Dramatic Arts educator: St John’s College
- 2018 (November- December) Sibikwa Arts centre: Head of the physical theatre course and Project coordinator and educator
- 2016- Present Facilitator and teacher at the Market Theatre Laboratory. (Physical Theatre)
- 2010 – Present Workshop leader at various schools around Johannesburg.
- 2014 RMB/ASSITEJ, Warhorse educational programme. : Workshop developer and leader.

### Innovation, Youth Development & Community Engagement

- 2019 (January- November) Various schools: Course developer: Commedia dell’arte & Clowning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- 2019 (January-February) St John’s College: Choreographer: First XV Rugby Ballet (Integrating dance and sport)
- 2018 (November- December) Sibikwa Arts centre: Head of physical theatre course, project coordinator and educator
- 2017 Festival of Excellence in Dramatic Arts: Facilitator (*Disruption*) Winner – *Original Works*
- 2016- present ZikkaZimba Scholarship program (Market Laboratory)
- 2015 Festival of Excellence in Dramatic Arts: Facilitator (*The Displaced*) Winner- *Original Works*
- 2013 48 Hour Film Project: Producer & Co-ordinator of St Stithians Boys’ College Team
- 2013- present *Godot Blitz: Lecture performance*
- 2011-present Just the One Foundation: Chairman,  
<http://www.justtheone.org.za/>

### General Work Experience:

- 2007 – 2013 : Owner and operator of Mon Ami Restaurant & Apple Seed Lounge Bar
- 2009 (May-July): National Arts Festival: Stage Manager for Blue Sky Productions
- 2008 (May-July): National Arts Festival  
Blue Sky productions: Puck’s Story: Performer/stage manager
- 2008 (September) Hilton Arts Festival:  
Fortune cookie theatre: The Travellers (stage manager)
- 2005- 2008 Stage manager for Blue sky Productions

## Personal Skills and competences:

### Languages:

- Mother Tongue: English
- Other Language/s: German & Afrikaans

### Artistic:

- Theatre and Performance
- Choreography and Dance Performance
- Directing
- Movement
- Physical theatre
- Guitar

### Awards and Nominations:

- 2017 Naledi Theatre Award Nominations:
  - Best Production for Children (0-12) (*Taking Flight*)
  - Best Performance in a Children's' Theatre Production: Jaques de Silva (**Winner**)
  - Best performance in a Children's' Theatre Production: Tebogo Machaba
- 2017 Standard Bank Ovation Award: *Fire House*
- 2017 Standard Bank Ovation Award: Welcome to the Zoo

Interests: Learning; directing, co-ordinating, teaching, performance, reading, connecting, moving, critical thinking, shape-shifting, travelling.

### References:

- Yvette Hardie: ASSITEJ World President  
[Director@assitej.org.za](mailto:Director@assitej.org.za)
- Callie Fields: Redhill School  
(Director of Leadership, Head of Faculty Creative Arts & chief IEB practical examiner)  
082 899 6869 / [cfields@stithian.com](mailto:cfields@stithian.com)
- Ismail Mahomed: The Market Theatre Foundation  
(Chief Executive Officer)  
083 235 8440/ [ismailm@markettheatre.co.za](mailto:ismailm@markettheatre.co.za)

- Jaques de Silva: ZikkaZimba Productions  
(Co-founder)  
0836241267 / [jaquesdesilva@gmail.com](mailto:jaquesdesilva@gmail.com)
  
- Hayleigh Evans: POPArt Theatre  
(Co-founder and Artistic Director)  
0832451040 / [popartjhb@gmail.com](mailto:popartjhb@gmail.com)