

Grey Africa wins Creative Circle Award for #SavannaVirtualComedyBar campaign, ahead of launch of season two

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Grey Africa is proud to announce that it has been recognised by the Creative Circle for its work on the #SavannaVirtualComedyBar campaign, winning first place in the Digital Interactive Award category. The #SavannaVirtualComedyBar was developed and launched during the Covid-19 lockdown to support comedians and help cheer up the nation.



"We're thrilled that the campaign was recognised by the Creative Circle Awards," says Steph van Niekerk, creative director at Grey and Liquid, WPP's bespoke agency solution for Distell.

"We're proud to have developed a campaign that helped entertain South Africans and connect them through laughter during a difficult time when they felt alienated and alone."

The campaign consisted of two elements – the weekly Bar Nights and bi-weekly Comedy Specials – which ran from April until July. The weekly Bar Night events, which were hosted on Zoom, featured two talented comics and an equally talented comedic host. The first Weekly Bar Night featured well-known comedians David Kau and Nik Rabinowitz, with Coconut Kelz

as the host. The Comedy Specials were run every two weeks for 12 weeks and had nine different comics and their host comedic barman. The lineup of comics included Chris Forrest, Angel Campey and Lindy Johnson. The specials were hosted on Savanna's social media channels, including Instagram Live, Facebook Live and YouTube Live, and provided a full 90 minutes of entertainment.

The campaign proved very popular with South Africans, reaching over 25 million views online. It offered aspiring comics a platform to showcase their talent, and ensured more established comedians didn't get rusty during lockdown. Importantly, the #SavannaVirtualComedyBar also gave financial support to these comedians to keep them going during a time when they couldn't otherwise earn a living.

Commenting on the success of the #SavannaVirtualComedyBar, Eugene Lenford, marketing manager for Savanna, says: "If there is one thing we have realised over the past seven months, it's that no matter what level of lockdown we find ourselves in, there is no ban on serving unrestricted laughter. Covid-19 just forced us to think on our feet and find different ways to show our support for the comedy industry, and to entertain our fans when they were feeling isolated from family, friends and fun. And now that we are on Level 1, we are thrilled to bring back the #SavannaVirtualComedyBar to an even broader audience for season two."

To share some of the laughs from season one of the #SavannaVirtualComedyBar, you can visit the [Savanna Cider Facebook page](#).

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