

# More Showmax Originals on the way, including Kelly Khumalo reality series and *Tali's Baby Diary*

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- Four more Showmax Originals on the way, building on record-breaking success of *Tali's Wedding Diary*, *The Girl From St Agnes* and *Somizi & Mohale: The Union*
- *Life With Kelly Khumalo* launches 6 August 2020
- Second season of record-breaking and Safta-winning *Tali's Wedding Diary* for 2021
- 2019 Standard Bank Young Artist winner Amy Jephta writing *Skemerdans* murder mystery for 2021
- Two-time Safta-winner Alex Yazbek writing and directing horror series *Dam* for 2021

MultiChoice has announced four upcoming Showmax Originals, building on the success of *Tali's Wedding Diary*, *The Girl From St. Agnes* and *Somizi & Mohale: The Union*, which all set first-day viewing records on the streaming platform.

"We've deliberately ramped up emphasis on local content," says Candice Fanguero, Showmax's head of content. "If you look at something like the first view metric, which asks what's the first show someone watches after signing up for Showmax under the assumption this is probably what convinced them to join, three out of the top five first view pieces of content are now local."

The next Showmax Original will be *Life With Kelly Khumalo*, a reality series about one of South Africa's biggest music stars, launching 6 August 2020. 2021 series on the way include the long-awaited second season of the South African Film and Television Award (Safta)-winning comedy, *Tali's Wedding Diary*; the nightclub-set murder mystery *Skemerdans*; and the small town horror *Dam*, with more Showmax Originals to be announced soon.

## ***Life With Kelly Khumalo, launching 6 August 2020***

Her vocal highness Kelly Khumalo is the latest celeb to allow South African audiences into her life, with *Life With Kelly Khumalo*, which is being produced by BarLeader, the company behind *Being Bonang*, *Somizi & Mohale: The Union* and 2020's other breakout reality series, *Kwa Mam'Mkhize*.

A household name by 21, now with over 1.7 million followers on Instagram alone, Kelly has been named Best Female Artist at the South African Music Awards, sold millions of albums, and opened for Grammy winner Missy Elliott.

But in recent years, Kelly has made headlines for more than just her undeniable talent, like her turbulent relationship with her son's father, hip-hop star Jub Jub; the conspiracy theories surrounding the death of her daughter's father, Bafana Bafana captain Senzo Meyiwa; and her recent 'divorce' from her sister, Zandie.

But there's more to her story than her history. *Life With Kelly Khumalo* is an intimate glimpse at the woman behind the headlines: a single mother of two who is juggling parenting with the build-up to the release of not just her new album, *Undithatha Kancinci*, but also her first gin, appropriately titled *Controversy* - both threatened by South Africa's unprecedented Covid-19 lockdown.

Watch the trailer here:

### ***Tali's Baby Diary, launching 2021***

*Tali's Wedding Diary*, produced by Sketchbook Studios, was the first Showmax Original when it launched in December 2017, setting a new record for first-day views on the platform. It went on to become the most-awarded comedy at the 2019 South African Film and Television Awards, where it took home five awards, including Best Comedy, Best Director (Ari Kruger) and Best Actress (Julia Anastasopoulos from *SuzelleDIY*).

In *Tali's Baby Diary*, an unexpected pregnancy forces Tali into a desperate pivot from Insta-influencer to 'wholesome' momfluencer, as Darren (Anton Taylor) and Rael (Comics' Choice nominee Glen Biderman-Pam) navigate the choppy waters of the Cape Town property game. But as the nine-month clock ticks down, Tali and the boys are forced to face the bigger questions about life, love and parenthood.

Watch Tali announce the news of Season 2 on Instagram here:

“

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



What is happening!???? I'll tell you what is happening. Season 2!!! That's right guys. Tali 2 is coming to @showmaxonline in 2021! I'm finished with excitement. I love u guys SO much I can't even 💎💎 #finished #season2 #influencer #excited #newseasonwhodis #cute #beautyblogger #bignews #instalove #announcement #nofilter #tbt #myjourney #herecome Tali2 #iloveguys

A post shared by Tali (@tali\_babes) on Jul 13, 2020 at 10:57pm PDT

### ***Skemerdans, launching 2021***

From Nagvlug Films (*Rage*) comes *Skemerdans*, a Cape Flats neo-noir set at The Oasis, a jazz club and after-dark entertainment venue that becomes the centre of a power struggle between two brothers, a scorned widow and an organised crime syndicate. As opposing forces fight to gain control of Glenn Fortune's legacy, an ongoing murder investigation gets closer to the inconvenient truth...

2019 Standard Bank Young Artist Amy Jephta (writer: *Trackers*, *Die Ellen Pakkies Storie*) serves as executive producer and showrunner on this new 13-part series, co-directing alongside Ephraim Gordon (*Sara Se Geheim*, *Suidooster*).

### ***Dam, launching 2021***

In *Dam*, a prodigal daughter returns home to the Eastern Cape to bury her father, only to be tormented by spirits in the house: but are they real or in her head?

*Dam* is being written and directed by two-time South African Film and Television Award winner Alex Yazbek (*The Wild*, *Isibaya*, *Gaz'lam*), with Picture Tree (*Vehicle 19*) producing.

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