



Press Release

MANGI'S (Scandalous) GROWING PAINS **Monday to Thursday @ 7.30pm**

Scandal can leave no innocent untouched - so allow us to introduce you to Mangi (Kagiso Modupe), the 18-year-old son of The Voice's Editor, Stan Nyathi (Luthuli Dlamini) and nursing sister, Thato (Rami Chuene).

Kagiso, who made his Scandal debut this week, has this to say about his character: "Mangi is very impressionable as he's spent much of his life at boarding school, due to his parents' busy lives. He is good looking, outgoing and popular at school. He's also a prankster and is definitely one of 'the boys'. He does well at school, but at times his schoolwork is neglected in favour of partying.

"When I first read the part I thought he was a lot like how I was in high school, the partying, the girls...but Mangi is a spoilt brat and that bit is not at all like me. His role makes him come across as being ungrateful for everything that he, or his parents have," comments Kagiso.

Kagiso first auditioned for the role of Mangi in 2004. "The first time was so daunting. I was in this room with so many people who were as determined as I was to get the part and the whole thing was nerve wracking! I got a second call and I thought maybe this was meant to be, but I didn't get my hopes up. Finally they called me to tell me that I got it! It was surreal until they told me I would be getting paid - and then it suddenly sunk in - this is a *job*."

Kagiso was born and grew up in Kwa-Thema, Springs. "I had dreams of being a doctor, well, it was more like my parents wanted me to be one, and they were always going on about it and I was a smart kid so they had high hopes, but I started doing drama at school and I really enjoyed it, so my love for the stage and performing grew from there."

He later started doing professional theatre and that led to ads, which later led to TV acting. "The theatre work has been instrumental in moulding my acting and so far my highlights have been "Sophiatown" (with the late and great) Dolly Rathebe - and the African Jazz Pioneers.

"Another highlight was "District Six" with Zane Meas. I've also just finished doing a movie called "Good Fight" with Stephina Zwane, who is also with Scandal," says Kagiso.

He is currently doing his third year of a Sports Science degree at the University of Johannesburg. If he hadn't been offered the Scandal role, he would have continued concentrating on a business career, related to entertainment, with his BSc degree.

Kagiso says that underneath Mangi's pleasant, outgoing demeanour, is a rather lonely and lost young man who craves attention. "He hides his feelings well by being a social animal but in the

next few months you will see him at his most vulnerable and he will have to do a whole lot of growing up.”

And now for some uncensored “family” secrets about how Kagiso is settling in with the cast: “Luthuli is very supportive and Rami is like a mother to me, on and off screen. Siyabonga (Vusi) is a superb actor and Sandy (Eddie) is my role model. Renate (Tamia) is the one with whom I gossip off set. Welile (Fana) is my buddy, my brother from another mother, Stephina (Lolo) is like a sister and Clint (Tino) is the funniest person I’ve met, so far.

“Genevieve (Angelina) is hot, Leeanda (Vanashree) is the love of my life and Keren (Nirvana) makes me wish I were a little bit taller. Dewald (Jaco) is my hangover buddy and Ashley (Andrew) is a bad dancer.”

Oh, the scandal of it all...

For more information and photos of Kagiso, please contact:

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