



Press Release

SEX SYMBOL SCANDAL! **Shakira Leaves No Man Untouched** **Scandal Mondays to Thursdays @ 7.30pm**

Singer Shakira's hips don't lie but Scandal's latest sex symbol of the same name is about to make a hot career out of half-truth teasers.

Shakira (Dawn Matthews) is the newly appointed Entertainment Editor for fortnightly celeb mag Scandal! She's wriggled her way into the plum position that senior journalist, Sam Young (Candice Derman), used to cover. Needless to say – Sam is not happy.

Nor is Jay-Jay Zungu (Daniel Hadebe), half-brother of publisher Vusi Zwane (Siyabonga Twala). Shakira was his lover and business associate in a lot of past petty scams. When Jay-Jay officially joined the recently launched mag as in-house paparazzi photographer he dumped her for former Scandal! journalist, turned ad agency copy writer, Lulama Jackson (Sarah Ngubeni). But Shakira isn't happy. And our sultry, social wannabe writer always gets what she wants. *Always.*

In real life, Dawn says she is totally different from brazen Shakira. "She has a confidence about her that is definitely attractive. I, on the other hand, am like most women out there and have issues of my own about my looks," comments Dawn.

"What I don't like about Shakira is that through her brashness she projects herself as a bitch, which doesn't do anything in terms of her

popularity. She's very confusing and confused and has a lot of growing up to do. She is selfish and it irritates me at times when she just does things for her own gain," says Dawn of her character.

The Karoo-born beauty Dawn, was born in Oudtshoorn. She grew up there until she got a chance to study drama at Stellenbosch University (Matties), where she graduated in 1997. "I always wanted to be an actor, but growing up in a small town and back in those days, there weren't many opportunities where I could show my potential. So when the opportunity came, I grabbed it with both hands," says Dawn.

After studying, Dawn did a stint at Cape Town's Artscape Theatre and performed in community theatre productions in the area. She got her first break in an Afrikaans drama, "Soutmans Land". She's appeared in other prominent TV soaps and dramas, co-presented an Afrikaans arts show (Kunskafee) on Kyknet and completed an American horror movie, "Snake Island", before joining Scandal. "I'm still very much a theatre actor and have just finished a run with the play "Koratoa" at the KKNK (Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees) in my hometown," comments Dawn.

"The challenge of being an actor is trying not to do the same thing twice. I believe it's my responsibility to bring something new to a character all the time, whether doing theatre or TV. You have to push the character's buttons all the time so it doesn't become one-dimensional", says Dawn.

Watch how Shakira concludes her Jay-Jay and Lulama love triangle with a bang on Thursday August 22. In this episode, Lulama finds Shakira seducing her fiancée – who really isn't trying too hard to fend off her advances – and calls off their engagement.

And Shakira will continue to slither into all kinds of other shockingly compromising situations that are pure...Scandal!

For more information and stunning photos of Dawn, please contact:
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