



Press Release

THE CHAKA METHOD **(of success)**

Weekdays @ 6.30pm

From mentally ill stalker, to drama honours graduate, to her new 2006 appointment as junior lecturer at Vulindlela College, Keketso Chaka (actress Katlego Danke) celebrates one of the longest standing roles on e.tv's popular youth drama. In real life, a lot of fan mail arrives daily for Ms Danke.

Katlego joined the show in 2002. Her character, Keketso, had a split personality and she tried to assume another character (KB's) identity. She was obsessed with KB and went completely off the rails and then proceeded to kidnap Charmaine's baby. After that, she kidnapped a pregnant homeless girl with plans to steal the girl's baby. This was after Keketso miscarried. However, Keketso's plan wasn't successful and she was committed to a mental asylum where she nearly committed suicide. Later she and Ziggy started a relationship, she started to take her medication and recovered...

2005 saw Keketso hosting her own TV show on campus. This she did in her usual obsessive-compulsive fashion, alienating staff and students alike, with her investigative reporting into most everyone's private lives. There were deep concerns that she was becoming emotionally ill again. And she and Ziggy ended their long-term relationship.

This year, Keketso enters the classroom armed with painstaking research and all-good intentions, but her strict disciplinary attitude

gets up the noses of her former student mates - and commune partners. Her teaching methods (which includes the convoluted Chaka Method of learning) are unpopular so the students retaliate by playing pranks on her. Miss Chaka hits back. And war is declared.

Keketso also has a secret - she's keen to make it as an actress in her own right, so will she stick with the lecturing job? And what about her turbulent love life? There have already been vicious rumours about her (at this stage, still just friends) relationship with sexy writing teacher, Sebastian, who has been helping her with script development for a movie.

But how will this affect Keketso's friendship with Naomi, who also has feelings for (and a history with) Sebastian? And don't forget that Naomi is Keketso's department head. Will this love triangle cause Keketso deep pain and major career problems in the future?

Katlego's take on Backstage? "The lows are that you can start acting by numbers... it's like you go into the routine of things and you lose that sense of excitement, that on the edge feel. But that's also the challenge. The highs? You're acting - and you're getting paid to do it!"

What does she think of Keketso's relationship with Sebastian? "Keketso is very controlling, so it's more logical for her to have a relationship with an older man, as she walks all over younger men. I think she might confuse Sebastian's mentorship with a love of sorts."

And what of Keketso's friendship with Naomi? "I think it's an interesting dynamic. A friendship between two people who formerly had a student/lecturer relationship has to change and adjust now that they are colleagues. Keketso is a jealous person but isn't the kind to get in a catfight for a man."

Katlego Danke has always been in the arts and loved acting. After matriculating from Sacred Heart College in 1996, she went on to complete a BA in Theatre and Performance at the University of Cape Town. Katlego says she's fortunate to have parents who support her regardless of what she does - on condition that she excels at it. One of her most memorable roles was that of *Cordelia* in a production of

King Lear in 2001. At this point in her life, she's grateful that she's learnt to appreciate true relationships and the connections that she makes with people.

Five things you didn't know about Katlego Danke:

1. She likes mangos
2. She likes water
3. She is an introvert
4. She likes the colours black and red
5. She likes fast flashy sports cars

Full marks for Backstage, weekdays @ 6.30pm

For photos of Katlego, please contact:

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