



## Press Release

### **SEXY KEREN TAHOR TAKES ON THE ALDULTEROUS NIRVANA NAHIR** **Scandal, Monday to Thursday 7.30pm**

The mysterious Keren Tahor was born in Israel where as a girl she always knew at the back of her mind that she would one day be an actress. A recent newcomer to the TV genre, Keren will now tackle the role of Nirvana Nahir on Scandal. Playing an Israeli national who grew up in South Africa, Nirvana joins The Voice amongst a controversy, as the new Business Manager. Does this mean the end of the cocky Andrew McBain at The Voice?

Nirvana will get to rock the steady Stan Nyathi's world - on a personal level. "Nirvana will bring with her some controversy that will both make you cheer for her and loathe her decisions at the same time. What attracted me the most to the character is that Nirvana is very strong, determined, hard working, ambitious and vulnerable person, which makes her a lot like me. She has been hurt in love before and was married very young and had a very turbulent relationship which affected her outlook on love. I also think that's why she is so drawn by Stan's stability and honesty. She's also kind, has a sense of humour and is very independent," says Keren.

Keren got a chance to pursue acting professionally after finishing university. "We moved to Johannesburg when I was 19. We stayed there for a while until I decided to study Speech and Drama at UCT. I graduated in 1996 but fell in love with the city, so I decided to stay there where I did a lot of theatre, commercials and some films," says Keren. Upon finishing Drama school, Keren together with friends decided to open a theatre company called the Arena Theatre Company, which did a few plays and managed to get Keren some exposure. "After that I did a play called 'Skintight' which was amazing and that led to the next play and the rest is history. After that I got a chance of doing films as well and got a part on a French film called *Dessence* where I had a very different role than what I usually play," adds Keren.

Because the TV industry is mostly up here in Johannesburg, it would be a TV job that would make her come back to Johannesburg. "I like the fact that I am getting very diverse roles for different mediums at the moment, I always knew that I wanted to be an actress and I never thought of doing other things. My most recent play was 'Unrequited Love' which was a romantic comedy and I had a wonderful role where I played a pianist and got the chance to play a bit," comments Keren.

Keren goes on to reveal that being an actress is a rewarding job because she gets to have an access to a wide range of emotions "...and I get to research the characters lives which are always different, so that emotional aspect draws me to being an actress. This work is exciting when you get really good scripts that allow you to disappear in the character you play. It has little to do with glamour and fame," adds Keren.

Keren further adds that she always takes every role as a great challenge. "I've played very diverse roles from very sexual roles to comedy and drama. If it has depth then I will definitely enjoy the role. So when Maynaard Kraak (Scandal Director) told me about the role of Nirvana I was instantly attracted to her - the role's combination of strength and vulnerability, her commitment to her work and her romanticism all evoke different emotions," adds Keren.

The challenges of working on a daily drama are more technical, reveals Keren. "I had to learn how to channel my feelings, emotions and so forth and get them to work for TV. Another challenge is the fact that you sometimes have to carry the same scene through from day to day and always stay true to your character."

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