

# BRAAI NEWS

October 2012

Vol 16

*#1 Newsletter for the South African Community  
of Tampa Bay & Beyond*



*"Letting go gives us freedom, and freedom  
is the only condition for happiness."*

*— THICH NHAT HANH*

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Join us for the  
**TAMPA BAY BRAAI**

Sunday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> from 10am  
Shelter # 7, Philippe Park,  
Safety Harbor

Hello Fellow South Africans,

This little note is just a very big THANK YOU to you all to let you know how much you have meant to me in my life after arriving in the States in 1993 and then starting the Braai's in 1995. After 17 years I think it's time to say good-bye as the 'organizer'. I know there must be someone out there who would love to take over and introduce some far better, more interesting and fresh ideas.

My goal when this group was started was to get South Africans together and for them to make friends and build a network of people that they could relate and associate with. I was sure that others felt as lost as I did in this new place. And hopefully that goal has been achieved for some of you. I've lived here for almost 20 years and because of you and the friends I have made, am now very happy to call this my "home", and again I want to say thank you for that.

It has been a blessing and a privilege for me to have shared and experienced some very good and some not so good times and events in some



of your lives. I know for sure that I am not the person I would have been had I stayed in South Africa, now that can be construed as either good or bad!!!! Many, many challenges have crossed my path and which I am now grateful that I experienced ... together with many exciting adventures.

My three boys are now all married and happily living their lives with freedom to move around as they wish, with no threat of being surrounded by crime and/or violence, and for that I will be forever grateful and thankful.

I'm hoping to see you all again at the next braai, but this time just as a visitor/guest.

Love,

Noleen

(My new phone # 727-688-0450)

Braai News © is a bi-annual, non-political and non-religious publication produced for the South African communities in the U.S.A.

The Tampa Bay Braai's are held in April and October of each year, on the last Sunday of the month. Check website for details, changes and schedule updates: [www.braainews.com](http://www.braainews.com).

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**[www.braainews.com](http://www.braainews.com)**

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Dear Noleen,

You have done so much during these past 17 years in helping bring the South African community together for braais and coffee evenings, moral support, encouragement and always a listening ear.

You have wholeheartedly shared your time and energy with so many of us in times of need, laughter and sadness.

Here's a huge big **Thank You**, from each and every one of us.

I know that so many of us look forward to our Braais every year. Therefore, I for one, would like to see this legacy continue. And so, the search begins for someone who would like to help organize the braais in the future.

In the meantime, we will miss those koeksusters, but not nearly as much as we will miss your organizational skills. So no more jolling in April and October, okay?

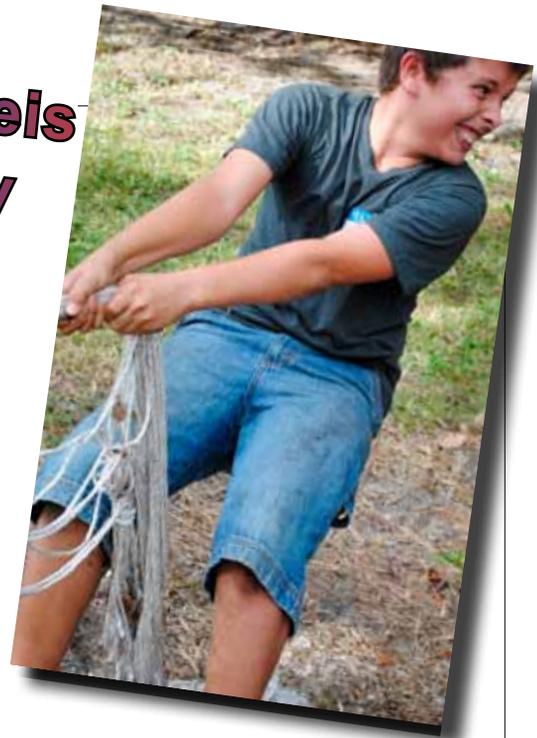
Anyone who may be interested in learning more about this fabulously fun, wholeheartedly fulfilling and underpaid job, please email me at [ZebraGraphicsUSA@gmail.com](mailto:ZebraGraphicsUSA@gmail.com).

*Many thanks, Sharon*

Memories are made of this...



**Braaivleis**  
**Sunny**  
**Skies**  
**and**  
**Tug o'**  
**War**



**Braai News is on Facebook**



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### On The Cover

During 2008 the famously secretive British street artist known as Banksy, paid a visit to Timbuktu, where he created this mural of a woman hanging a zebra's stripes out to dry.

Although he is said to have been globe-trotting for years, (you can find his graffiti all over the world, America, Europe, The Middle East), this work from Africa is definitely worth taking a closer look at.

To learn more about Banksy or to purchase any of his works, visit [www.banksy.co.uk](http://www.banksy.co.uk)



**NEW**  
**CITIZENS**



**Marius and Lize Smook (above)** became Citizens on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Rina Oberholzer (left)** was sworn in 7/19/12

**Dawie Oberholzer** was sworn in 7/19/12

and congratulations **Leora!!!**



**Congratulations!!**

### For South Africans of The World!

Great news – cashkows.com is now in North America to assist you with settling your financial affairs in South Africa. Lizette is in Toronto until December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and will be traveling to the USA in this time. Cashkows.com was founded in 2010 to help South Africans to withdraw and migrate investment values. In the short two years we have successfully developed and built the most comprehensive Global Financial Migration® network in the world.

We have assisted South Africans in over 56 countries to:

Access and transfer full value of retirement annuities & pensions left behind in SA

Transfer of inheritances from SA

Giving cross-border tax advice and planning

#### Retirement planning

The most important aspect of retirement planning in your new country is to get your funds reinvested and receive the tax refund. If you have funds tied up in **retirement annuities in South Africa**, an amendment to the Income Tax Act in 2008 now makes it possible to withdraw the value in full, before retirement age. This requires that your emigrant status to be recorded with the South African Reserve Bank.

When recording such status you **do not** relinquish your South African citizenship and can retain your South African passport.

#### Inheritance from South Africa

If you live overseas and are likely to be the beneficiary of an inheritance consider your status from the perspective of the South African authorities, given the potential impact of exchange control regulations. Without some advance planning there is a risk that payments due to you from an inheritance cannot be effected without making retrospective application to the Reserve Bank.

#### If you have formally emigrated from South Africa:

In regard to inheritances (i.e. legacies and distributions from estates in South Africa) accruing to each non-resident or emigrant beneficiary:



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If the beneficiary of an inheritance is an emigrant, it is important to note that such inheritance may only be remitted offshore if the date of their emigration precedes the date of death of the individual concerned.

So don't delay. Get your financial affairs in order in South Africa, maximize your retirement planning and rest easy that your inheritance will reach you there.

See ad on page xxx

**Cash kows**

North America office: [lizette@cashkows.com](mailto:lizette@cashkows.com)

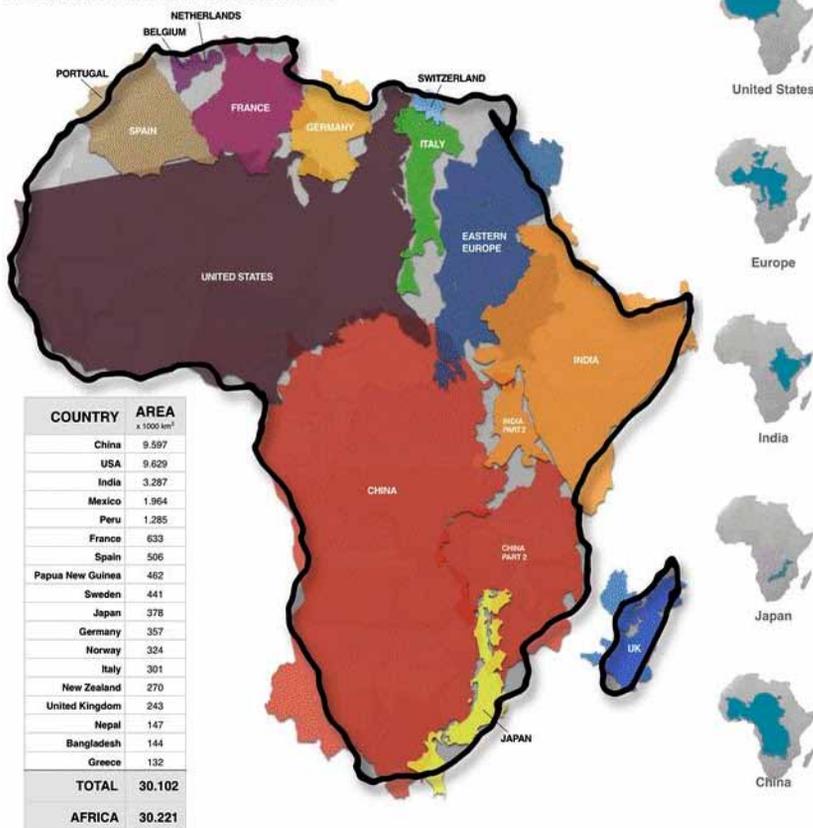
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## The True Size of Africa

A small contribution in the fight against rampant immigration, by Kai Krause  
Graphic layout for visualization only (some countries are cut and rotated)  
But the conclusions are very accurate: refer to table below for exact data



## Important!

Please note that the people who make food up especially for the Braai, would love to have your orders ahead of time.

This help them to decide on quantities, so that you can enjoy the freshest food possible. Look for their ads throughout the newsletter

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## Manne On A Mission



**B**rando Pistorius got a nice surprise when his son Travis decided to visit for an extended stay. Travis has been visiting with Brando and Joanne for the past 8 months.

Prior to that Travis worked at the Kruger National Park for the past few years researching lions in Skukuza. In February of 2012, Brando met up with him in Sydney, Australia to visit the newest addition to the Pistorius family. Eli is Brando's first grandson by his oldest daughter, Bronwyn. From Sydney, Travis travelled back to the US to spend time with Brando and Joanne and to learn his father's business of restoring antique & classic cars. Travis was a huge help at the car shows and even sold several of the antique cars.

Recently, this father and son team took off on a roadtrip

in an RV. They spent three weeks touring the Northeast visiting Washington DC, New York City where they met up with daughter/sister Taryn. They then travelled on to Hershey, Pennsylvania for the annual car show that the Pistorius family attends without fail. While at the show, they sold their 1921 Cadillac which made for an all round successful trip. Brando then bought a 1932 Chevrolet while still at the car show, and sold it the very same day! Wow... way to go Brando!



*Top: Travis' famous Formula One Poitjie*

*Above: Travis' new home, a renovated Pace Arrow RV. The RV had a great view of Brooker Creek Preserve, with an alongside convenience of the bar and braai*



*Back row: Daniel and Kris Mathews (Joanne's oldest daughter & husband), Joanne's youngest daughter Amanda, Joanne, Brando, Travis. Front row: Granddaughters- Morgan, Lorelei and Leah*

## Manne On A Mission

One Racing together. The whole family has come to know and love having Travis around and he will be sorely missed. Travis will be leaving the US on December 1, heading back to Australia to help out with his sister and nephew. Then it's back to South Africa, which he really feels is his "home."

*Right: Travis and Brando with the 1922 Cadillac*



*Above: Travis's first 2 project cars were a 1980 MGB and 1977 MG Midget. With the Midget, as his primary project, he saw it through from start to finish, which included sanding it down to bare metal, painting it, and working on every component under the hood. He also replaced the roof, carpet, radio, tires and more.*



*Above: At the Zephyrhills Car Show with the 1914 Metz*

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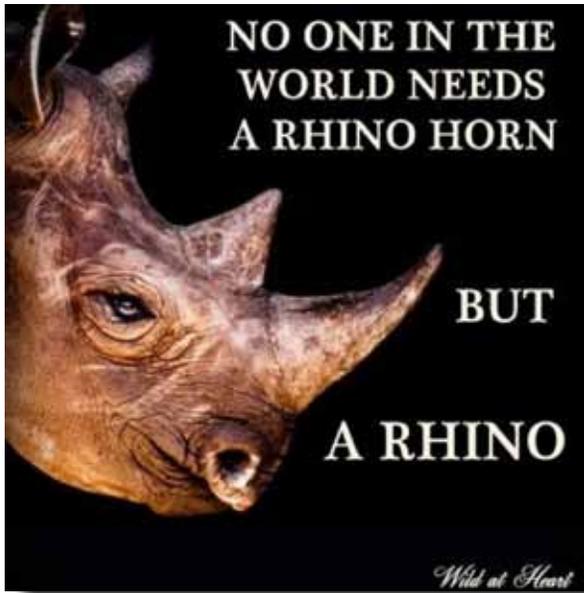
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# South Africa's Rhino Population Dwindles

**SA's rhinos could be extinct by 2050 as poaching toll reaches 281, could hit 600 this year, experts warn.**

**D**uring the first half of 2012, poachers killed 281 of South Africa's rhinos, 164 in the Kruger National Park, according to the SA Department of Environmental Affairs.

Water and Environmental Affairs Minister, Edna Molewa, has yet to sign memoranda of understanding with both Vietnam and China over steps that can be taken to stop the slaughter of rhinos in South Africa.

Most of the country's leading rhino experts are proposing some degree of return to South Africa legally selling rhino horn.

A number of experts are calling for the establishment of a legal rhino horn industry. Ian Player who is widely credited with saving the white rhino from extinction; —George Hughes (former Natal Parks Board CE); Clive Walker (founder of the Endangered Wildlife Trust); John Ledger (a former EWT head) and John Hanks (a former Peace Parks head and World Wide Fund for Nature official.)

From an average of 15 animals poached in the years before 2008, poaching increased to 448 last year and could hit 600 this year, say experts.

If this goes on, the species could go into decline from 2016, and could become extinct in the wild by 2050, according to South African National Parks (SANParks) wildlife veterinary services head Markus Hofmeyr.

Former Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife conservation planning chief, Roger Porte, has drawn up an 18-page proposal on how SA could — if allowed to do so by under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) — start legally selling rhino horn in a bid to curb the black market in rhino horn by providing a legal source and undercutting the price.

More than 95% of Africa's remaining rhinos were wiped out within 20 years of the 1977 ban, according to SANParks' website.

If South Africa, however, is to do this at the next conference of the parties to CITES, in March next year, the country has to submit a proposal to CITES by October

South Africa also needs to convince enough of the delegates at the conference to gain the two-thirds majority needed for any such proposal to be passed.

The possibility of legalised rhino horn trade is vociferously opposed by activists, who argue that by opening up trade, demand would exceed supply and the price would not be reduced.

In a blog, members of Outraged Citizens Against Poaching argued that two years after CITES in 2008 granted China approved

buyer status in the sale of stockpiled ivory from Botswana, South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe it was revealed that, "far from flooding the market with legal ivory to reduce demand, up to 90% of ivory on sale came from illegal sources and prices of legal ivory had increased to as much as \$7000/kg ...(showing) that instead of stemming the poaching by satisfying the demand, the sale of the stockpiles has simply fuelled the demand for illegal ivory."

Mr Porter said the proposal was "more convincing" than the country's two previously failed proposals, made in 1994 and 1997, because the strategy had been changed to propose that the horn was sold through a central seller along the lines of diamond conglomerate De Beers' diamond sale strategy.

Mr Ledger said South Africa had demonstrated the ability to manage wildlife, was building up the black rhino population and had saved the white rhino from extinction.

It was also "deeply frustrating" that emotion often got in the way of considered debate on the issue, he said.

In 1900 there were an estimated 50 white rhino in Africa, last year there were an estimated 20755.

The corresponding figures for black rhino were 25000 in 1900 and 4985 last year, up from 1992's 2300, according to statistics in Mr Walker's book *The Rhino Keepers*.

South Africa is home to more than 80% of the world's remaining rhinos.

Ms Molewa has remained silent on whether South Africa is to apply to CITES to legally sell rhino horn because the Department of Environmental Affairs is conducting a series of workshops, under SANParks head Mavuso Msimang, as a platform for considered debate on the issue.

The country's estimated 20700 rhino had a population growth rate of six percent a year but rhino poaching had escalated by 35% between 2010 and 2011, according to statistics from SANParks and rhino expert Michael Eustace.

### Ranger Arrested

South African wildlife officials have reported that a ranger is among four Kruger National Park workers arrested on rhinoceros poaching charges.

In a recent statement the National Parks Department said the four were arrested by officers investigating the killing of two rhinos whose corpses were found earlier that day. The animals had been shot and stripped of their horns, which are prized among some who believe they have medicinal powers.

The Parks Department says the ranger arrested is among scores who had been striking for higher pay.



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## Places I have & have not been

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone!

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favorite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

And, sometimes I think I am in Vincible but life shows me I am not.

People keep telling me I'm in Denial but I'm positive I've never been there before!

I have been in Deepshit many times; the older I get, the easier it is to get there.

I saw a car in England with a bumper sticker "EK MIS Suid Afrika" ..so I broke his window, stole his radio & laptop & left a note which said: "Voel jy nou beter?"

At the Scottish wedding reception the D.J. yelled... "Would all married men please stand next to the one erson who has made your life worth living." The bartender was almost crushed to death.

And there's yet another GOLD for SA! Former Police Chief Jackie Selebi served a 15 year prison sentence in a record time of only 4 months!



"Paddy tells Mick he's thinking of buying a Labrador. Fook off say's Mick, have you seen how many of their owners go blind."

This is why we don't speak Dutch in South Africa



*Dear Algebra,  
I am sick & tired of  
finding your X.  
Just accept the fact  
that she's gone.  
Move on dude, find  
someone else.  
Don't even  
ask Y!!!*

Merrie Krismis  
Heppie Nuwejaar  
Suip versigtig  
En hou jou hare bymekaar  
Groetnis byrrie hys  
Hou lekka paartie  
En braaivleis,  
Groetnis virrie taanie  
en al die laities  
Se vi ma "I love u"  
En vi derra the message  
is vi hom oek  
Se vi coussie, ons stiek  
Soes masels yt  
Om die big days te celebrate  
En, kykie  
Loep wys jou gavriet byrrie kerk  
Doen tog 'n slag  
Die Jirre se werk  
Se virrie Father,  
"Thank U" virrie jaar  
Want jou lewe is darem  
nog bymekaar!  
En loep koop die presentjies in tyd  
Annere soek dji net moellegeit  
Moetie te veel suipie  
Lat dji moet hystoe krypie  
En as die mew klok  
Skink vi my oek n dop  
Hou jou dinges in jou broek  
voordat dji moellegeit soek  
Merrie Krismis en Groetnis  
Hou lekka paarties,  
Pieknicks en braaivleis  
En iet jou poeding byrrie hys  
Ok Goebaai  
Ons Ko maak  
Krismis 'n draai!



### You Know You Are in South Africa When:

- Travelling at 120 km/h, you're the slowest vehicle on the highway/freeway.
- A bullet train is being introduced, but potholes can't be fixed.
- The last time you visited the coast you paid more in speeding fines and toll fees than you did for the entire holiday.
- You have to prove that you don't need a loan to get one.
- You don't stop at red traffic lights, just in case somebody hijacks your car.
- Rwandan refugees start leaving the country because the crime rate is too high.
- The SABC advertises and shows highlights of the programme you just finished watching.
- You produce a R100 note instead of your driver's licence when stopped by a traffic officer.
- You can do your monthly shopping on the pavement.
- You have to hire a security guard whenever you park your car.
- You know a taxi can move twice its certified number of people in one trip.
- People have the most wonderful names: Christmas, Goodwill, Pretty, Wednesday, Blessing, Brilliant, Gift, Precious, Innocence and Given, Patience, Portion, Coronation, Godknows, Clueless, Doctor, Professor.
- You continue to wait after a traffic light has turned to green to make way for taxis travelling in the opposite direction.



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## Fixing Strays...

After much searching for an affordable vet who could fix the strays in Noleen's back yard, she finally came across an amazing organization called Countless Cats Rescue, Inc.

This tiny little non profit consisting of just 2 committed women operate out of Holiday in Pasco county. Their contact address and phone number is: P.O.Box 3305 Holiday, FL 34692, (727) 741-0535.

They even offered to meet Noleen halfway to give her the traps needed to capture the kittens and their mom. The kittens had to be either 8 weeks old or weigh 2 lbs. and then they too would be spayed/neutered. They charge \$15 per cat and that includes their shots. Amazing and unbelievable! The cats have to be feral (a cat born and raised in the wild or who has been abandoned or lost and reverts back to wild ways in order to survive). Once fixed, the cats are released

back to the original location of their captured.

A few items on their "wish list" include blankets, bleach, cat litter, hand sanitizer, paper towels, sheets, towels, cat toys, large heavy duty trash bags, monetary donations.

### Dear Dogs and Cats:

The dishes on the floor with the paw prints are yours and contain your food. The other dishes are mine and contain my food. Placing a paw print in the middle of my plate does not mean that is suddenly your food, nor do I find that aesthetically pleasing in the slightest.

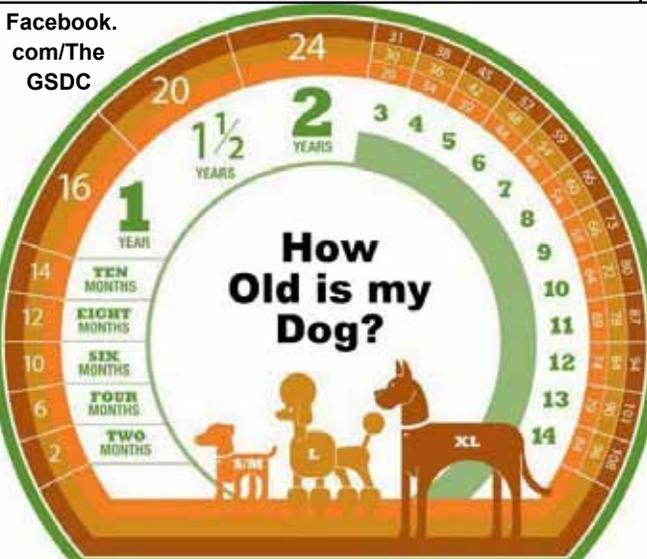
The house was not designed by NASCAR and is not a racetrack. Racing me to the front door is not the object. Tripping me doesn't help because I fall faster than you can run.

I cannot buy anything bigger than a king-sized bed. I am very sorry about this. Do not think I will continue sleeping on the couch to ensure your comfort. Dogs and cats can actually curl up in a ball when they sleep. It is not necessary to sleep perpendicular to each other, stretched out to the fullest extent possible. I also know that sticking tails straight out and having tongues hanging out on the other end to maximize space that you are taking up, is nothing but sarcasm.

For the last time, there is no secret exit from the bathroom! If, by some miracle, I beat you there and manage to get the door shut, it is not necessary to claw, whine, meow, try to turn the knob or get your paw under the edge in an attempt to open the door. I must exit through the same door I entered. Also, I have been using the bathroom for years — canine/feline attendance is not required.

And finally, the proper order for kissing is to kiss me first, then go smell the other dog or cat's butt! I cannot stress this enough.

**Forget the old calculations of figuring 7 years to every 1 year. This new scale is far more like it.**



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## Rodriguez - An Introduction

*"...maybe the Myth and the Mystery are now gone,  
but the Music and the Memories will always remain..."*

### The Most Famous Musician Who Never Was...

Just who exactly is Rodriguez?

by Andrew Bond

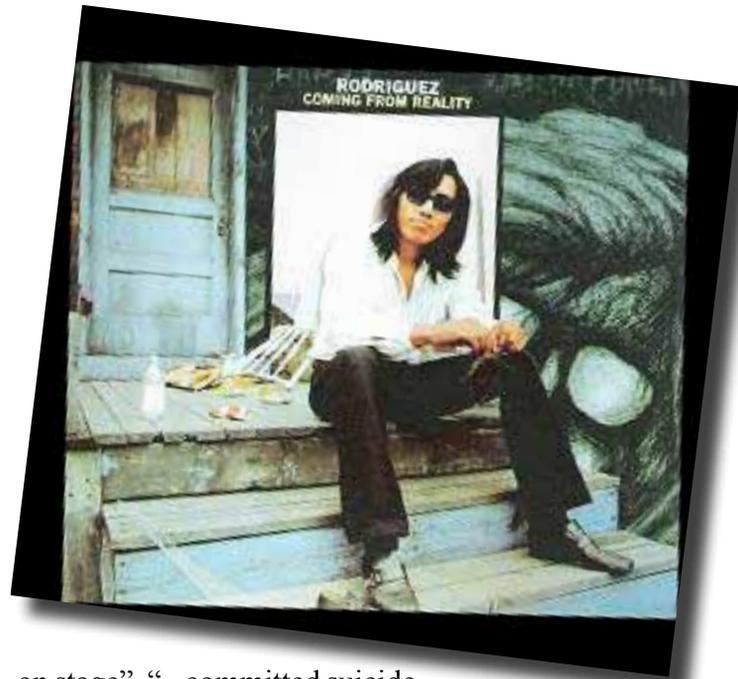
The mysterious background surrounding this enigmatic sixties folk singer has puzzled South African fans for the past 25 years. According to most, he disappeared after proclaiming "thanks for your time, then you can thank me for mine and after that's said, forget it" at the end of his unique album, *Cold Fact*. No one really knew the truth about this cult figure until recently, that is, when the information revolution of the internet helped Stephen Segerman and Craig Bartholomew Strydom reveal the startling news that he is indeed alive and well and pursuing a political career in Detroit!

Sixto "Jesus" Rodriguez remains well entrenched in the lore of South African music, due mainly to the well circulated second album of his - *Cold Fact* (Brian's note: actually his first). Dipped sweetly in the psychedelia and bohemia of the sixties, this album mingled simple acoustic guitar with astonishing lyrics of inner city blues, hopeless romanticism and general disillusionment. It was the appeal of "trippy" numbers such as "Sugarman" and "I Wonder" that won the album a place in the hearts of many South Africans. Remarkably, this Hispanic American remains largely unknown elsewhere and, with the odd exceptions in Australia, New Zealand and even Zimbabwe, became lost in the haziness of the hippie era.

#### **SUGARMAN.ORG IS THE OFFICIAL RODRIGUEZ WEBSITE.**

**In 1997, Stephen "Sugar" Segerman set up a website, called 'The Great Rodriguez Hunt', with the intention of finding any information about the mysterious US musician of 'Cold Fact' fame. In the same year Brian Currin established 'Climb Up On My Music', a tribute site to the life and works of Rodriguez. In 1998, when Rodriguez was discovered, alive and well and living in Detroit, the search was over and those two websites were combined into one central online repository for all information about Rodriguez. The website has always been fully endorsed and supported by Rodriguez and his family, who read the message boards regularly.**

Like so many other talented musicians he faded into obscurity and the master copies of his two albums disappeared in the process. The void was filled with a mystery of intrigue that was so thorough that not even the local distributors, Polygram, were able to truthfully comment. "He shot himself



on stage", "...committed suicide whilst in jail", "wandered off into the hills and O.D'ed" were just some of the more popular myths. Judging by his sublime lyrics, drugs and despair certainly did play a part in musician's life, further than that very little was known about this troubled musician. One certainty, however, was the existence of an earlier album, "Coming From Reality", (actually his second album) which was incorrectly renamed "After The Fact", when re-released in 1972 (actually 1976).

Twenty five years later Polygram South Africa enlisted the help of record collectors Mad Andy Harrod and Stephen "Sugar" Segerman (his real name) to track down a copy, which was subsequently remastered and re-released on CD, satisfying a healthy demand from the public. A plea for further clues on the sleeve notes prompted investigative journalist-at-large Craig Bartholomew Strydom to track down the original producers of *Cold Fact*, Dennis Coffey and Mike Theodore. They confirmed that Rodriguez was still alive and put him in touch with the singer.

Strydom drew their attention to Sugar's website - the "Great Rodriguez Hunt", and the breakthrough finally came. Praise for the musician had been gathering on the website forum and in due course a woman by the name of Eva Koller contacted the site claiming to be Rodriguez's daughter. Telephone numbers were exchanged and shortly thereafter Sugar received a late night phone call from Sixto Rodriguez himself. Sugar recalled the moment: "I recognised the nasal voice immediately. He spoke with a soft American accent and because the line was so clear we were able to have a calm conversation despite the fact that I was practically dropping the phone from sheer excitement". They spoke for more than 20 minutes. No one was more surprised than Rodriguez to discover his cult status in South Africa and plans are now

under way for a tour in 1998, 17 years after a successful tour of Australia and New Zealand was set to be his last. Even the people at Polygram fell about themselves with laughter when they heard the news.

The wave of speculation was finally settled. Sixto Rodriguez is, in fact, a deeply private person, preferring not to elaborate on his mysterious past. This explains why so little was ever known about him and he even adopted the moniker “Jesus” Rodriguez, equally advantageous for anonymity and publicity. “Sometimes the fantasy is better left alive, it’s as unbelievable to me as it is to you” commented his daughter Eva, suggesting that Rodriguez’s life was, perhaps, as tumultuous as his home country was in the late 1960’s. What is known however is that he has spent most of his life in America’s motor city, Detroit, amongst a working class immigrant background. (His parents came to Michigan from Mexico in the 1920’s). He went on to graduate from Wayne State University (Detroit) in 1981 with a degree in Philosophy, spent several years as a teacher and has, most recently, run for several political positions, including mayor of Detroit.

**During 2012 Rodriguez appeared on *The Letterman Show*, *60 Minutes*, and appeared at the Sundance Film Festival for the premier of *Searching for Sugarman*. In recent years he has also performed twice in South Africa**

Rodriguez’ music is difficult to categorise as it fuses elements of Rock, Folk, Jazz, Soul, Blues and even Classical flourishes. Rodriguez is a singer-songwriter in the social commentary style of Bob Dylan, with the feel of the old Blues masters and even touches of Rock and Roll.

My inspiration comes from the environment and personal angst...each song is written to a theme...

- Rodriguez, March 1998

I’ve always concentrated on social issues, because I’ve always found it easiest to write about things that upset me. But I can (and have) explored the boy-girl theme in music and I enjoy writing ballads too.

- Rodriguez, March 1998

His sound is timeless and doesn’t date... it still sounds fresh today. Rodriguez has been a household name among the white population in South Africa since the early 70’s. The album *Cold Fact* has become a cult classic in South Africa, but unbelievably Rodriguez was unknown elsewhere (except in Aus-

A story so incredible it has to be true. Or completely false. I can’t tell. Surely there’s no way that the world could have been duped into believing that 1970s folk artist Rodriguez really poured gasoline over himself on stage and set himself on fire in a brazen act of public suicide. Or is it true about the story that he shot himself— again, on stage— after singing a rather pertinent lyric, killing himself to the stunned surprise of the crowd. The real story is one of these. Or maybe it’s neither, that’s up for viewers to discover in Malik Bendjelloul’s captivating and enthralling documentary, *Searching for Sugar Man*. The less one knows about the circumstances surrounding the life and times of this Detroit musician the better as half the fun of this movie is in discovering him and his story. Bendjelloul has, without a doubt, made one of the year’s very finest film and something truly special.

Rodriguez, as the film explains to us, was an artist that emerged out of the impoverished streets of Detroit, Michigan, in the shadow of the likes of Bob Dylan. His two albums— 1970’s *Cold Fact*, and 1971’s *Coming to Reality*— fared rather dismally on the charts, but fared much better in South Africa, where his rebellious songs played out as the unofficial anthem of a nation’s youth held hostage to the ravages of Apartheid. To know any more of his story would be to ruin it and I beg any readers out there to go into *Searching for Sugar Man* as blind to the twists and turns of the narrative as possible.

tralia, New Zealand and Zimbabwe). He was never mentioned in any music magazines, rock encyclopedias or any other publications on the history of Rock.

It was this situation of an American artist being famous in South Africa, but unknown in his home country (and, of course, my love for his music!), that led me to set up this website. As one news headline said during the 1998 South African tour: “American Zero, South African Hero”. Through this website and the Internet I have discovered that Rodriguez also has fans in Germany, Canada, Japan, England, Brazil, Norway and the USA.

Since 2001 or so, Rodriguez has started getting mentioned in magazines like *Mojo* and *NME*, thanks in part to the David Holmes cover of ‘Sugar Man’. Shiloh Noone’s book ‘*The Seekers Guide To The Rhythms Of Yesterday*’ (published by the author in April 2004) also features a section on Rodriguez.

But worldwide fame and fortune still elludes this most humble of musicians.

For more information, visit the official Rodriguez website at <http://sugarman.org/>