


Daria!

Issue VI – September 2015
The 10th Anniversary of Daria!, 2005-2015

Brasov International Film Festival & Market
The 4th Edition of the Festival, 3-13 September 2015

In the name of music!

by Carola Bidlo



He is a Citizen of New Orleans, a musician, percussionist who also sings, a composer, father, a pioneer in developing art and entertainment and twenty-first century hero!

I thought people like Damon Batiste only exist in movies like Batman or they get washed away in between the tragedies of this world.

Hurricane Katrina happened 10 years ago and was a tough pill to swallow for the residents of New Orleans. But one man raised above this force of nature and took upon himself to save the world of sadness and build a new City.

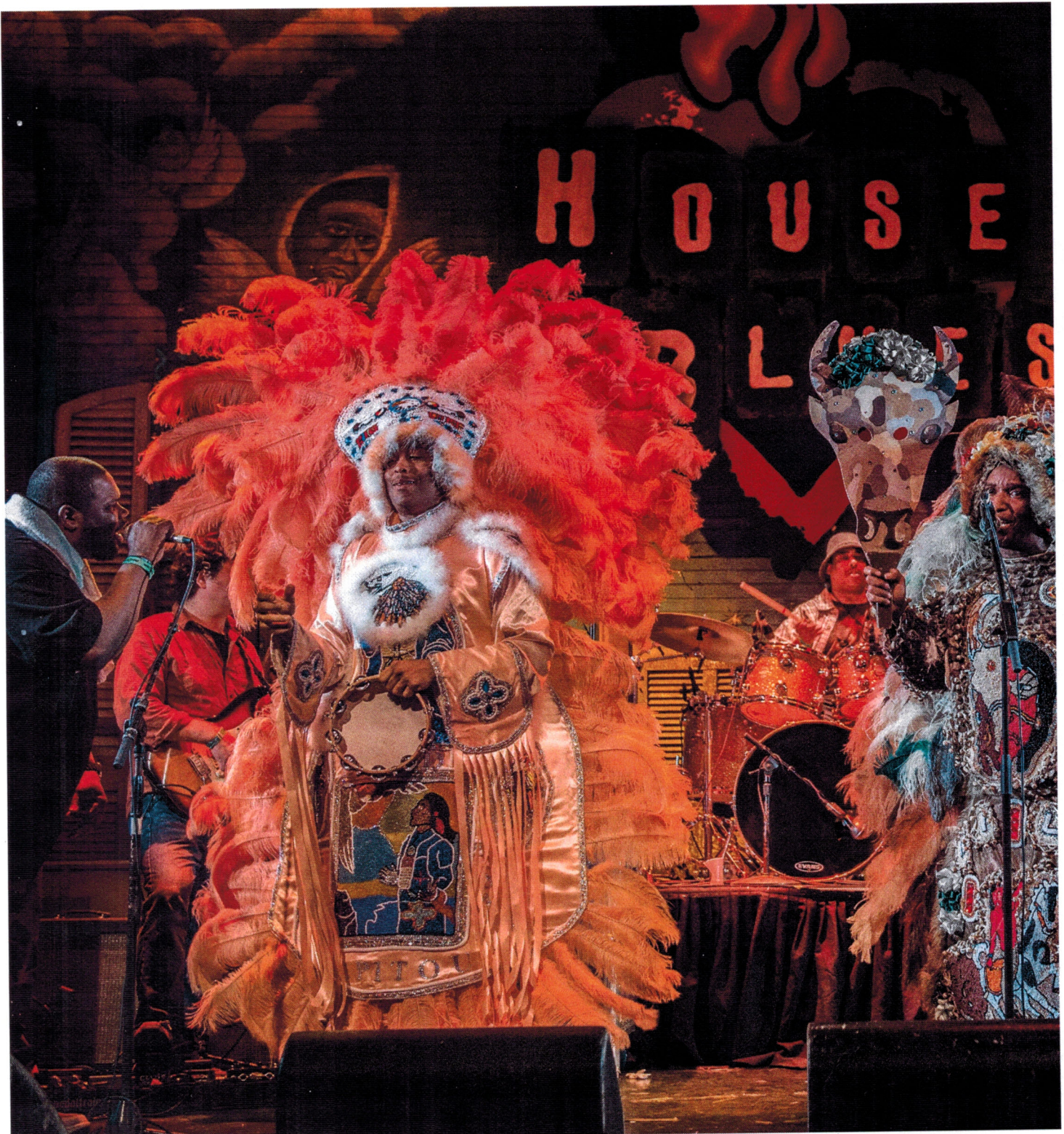
He is Damon Batiste from the Batiste Brothers Band, but mostly Damon from New Orleans, the man who's faith in people and desire to challenge the impossible has shown through the years that he was right: There is always light after dawn!

"I have taken on the responsibility to service the youth and rebuild our City post Hurricane Katrina. Education and Reclaiming our Cultural Identity was very important to instill hope in the Community and New Orleans and icons of the culture community that could not afford to return," says Damon.

Nosaconn was born!

It's a Cultural Enrichment Program founded by Damon to support education and to create new ways of developing arts through education. "Nosaconn has recognized the field of arts, culture and education on a local, regional and international level as a tremendous networking tool for job cre-

ation, tourism and selfempowerment. Over the past 5 years, Nosaconn has produced outdoor concerts, educational workshops, seminars and youth enhancement programs. Since its inception, Nosaconn has employed over 250 people," describes Damon.



The cultural impact of Nosaconn over the years is huge. I will mention 2012 when Nosaconn was selected to participate in two national pilots; The White House Initiative on Turnaround Arts and The After School Corporation providing after school and summer programming to help turnaround low-performing schools in underserved areas. And in 2013 the program entered in partnership with the United Way of Louisiana to establish the Cultural Exchange Center. The Center provides a platform for the exchange of global digital media and culture.



"I would like my daughters to continue my life's work and become citizens of the world by making it a better place, a place that has love and respect for music, culture and heritage"states the singer.



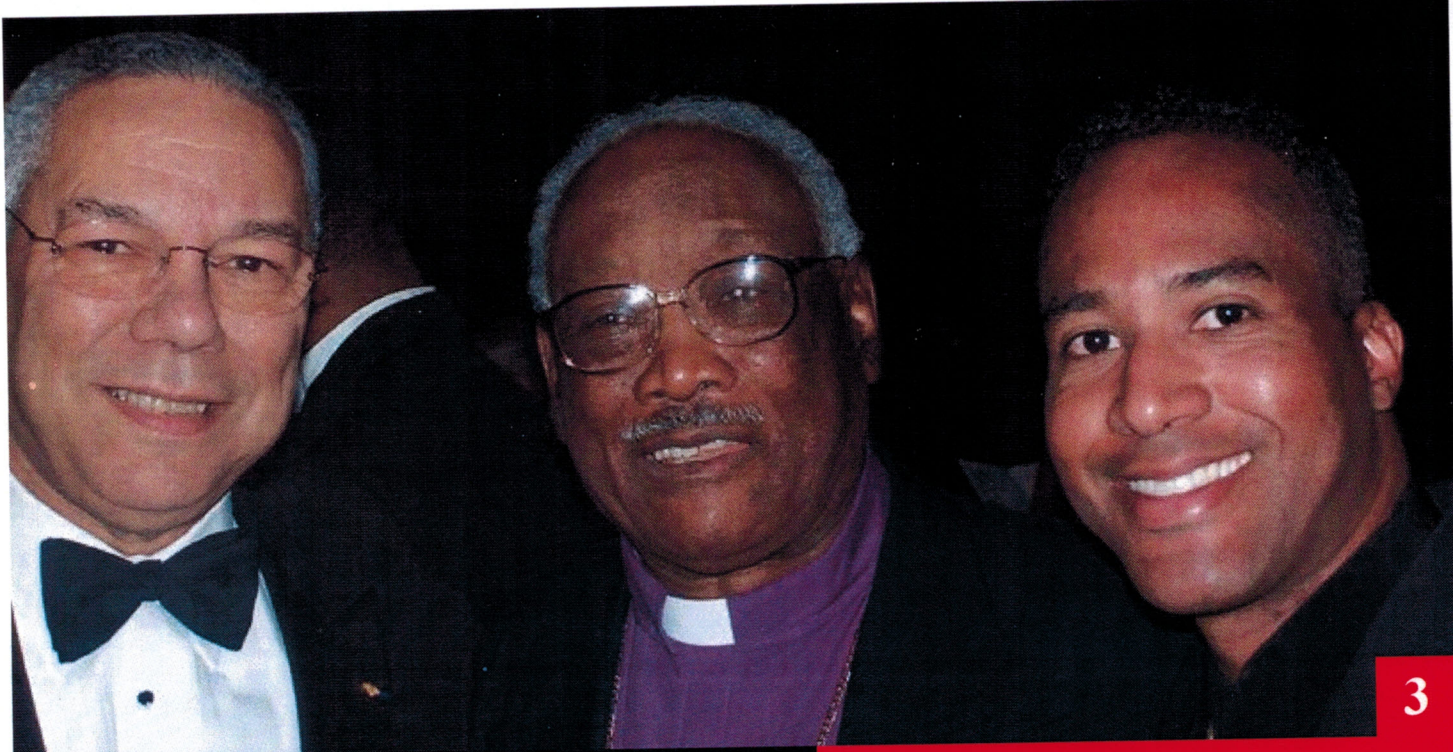
10 years anniversary of Katrina

The Anniversary is right around the corner and it couldn't go unnoticed. Damon is organizing a Festival. "It's a Project associated with Digital Media Technology and the 21CCLC Learning Center/Department. Our hopes are to have something major to show for the 300th Anniversary of New Orleans in 2018," states Batiste.

He still performs and writes lyrics

Damon Batiste was 5 years of age when he first performed with The Batiste Brothers Band. "It was my older brother Russell Batiste with whom I was always performing. Mick Jagger was quoted as saying that Russell is the best drummer in the world," he remembers. The next generation of the Batistes are Damon's daughters, Leiah Batiste and Nala Batiste, who have just recorded their first book & CD project.

His inspiration comes from his Son and Daughters. "I do and have written songs with my kids. The best place to write is on long flights to Africa when there is no disturbance from cell phones or administrative duties," says Damon.



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1. Russell Batiste Jr. And Friends with Wild Tchoupitoulas Mardi Gras Indians, AKA Black Indians and Far Right Harry Cook of Hot 8 Brass Band.
2. Landry Walker Chosen Ones Brass Band on Floor and on Stage, Far Left Louisiana Music Hall of Fame David R. Batiste with RCAA Students,
3. Colin Powell and Damon J. Batiste, Rev. of Full Gospel Baptiste also in Photo, Credit NOSACONN Photo Archives
4. Rapper Ludacris and Damon J. Batiste at Ebony Oscar Party in Los Angeles - Photo Credit NOSACONN Photo Archives
5. Famed Attorney Johnnie Cochran and Damon J. Batiste, Credit NOSACONN Photo Archives
6. Whitehouse Turnaround Arts Committee. Kathy Fletcher, Far Right, Damon J. Batiste and Celebrity Actress Alfre Woodard, Photo Credit Peter Nakhid



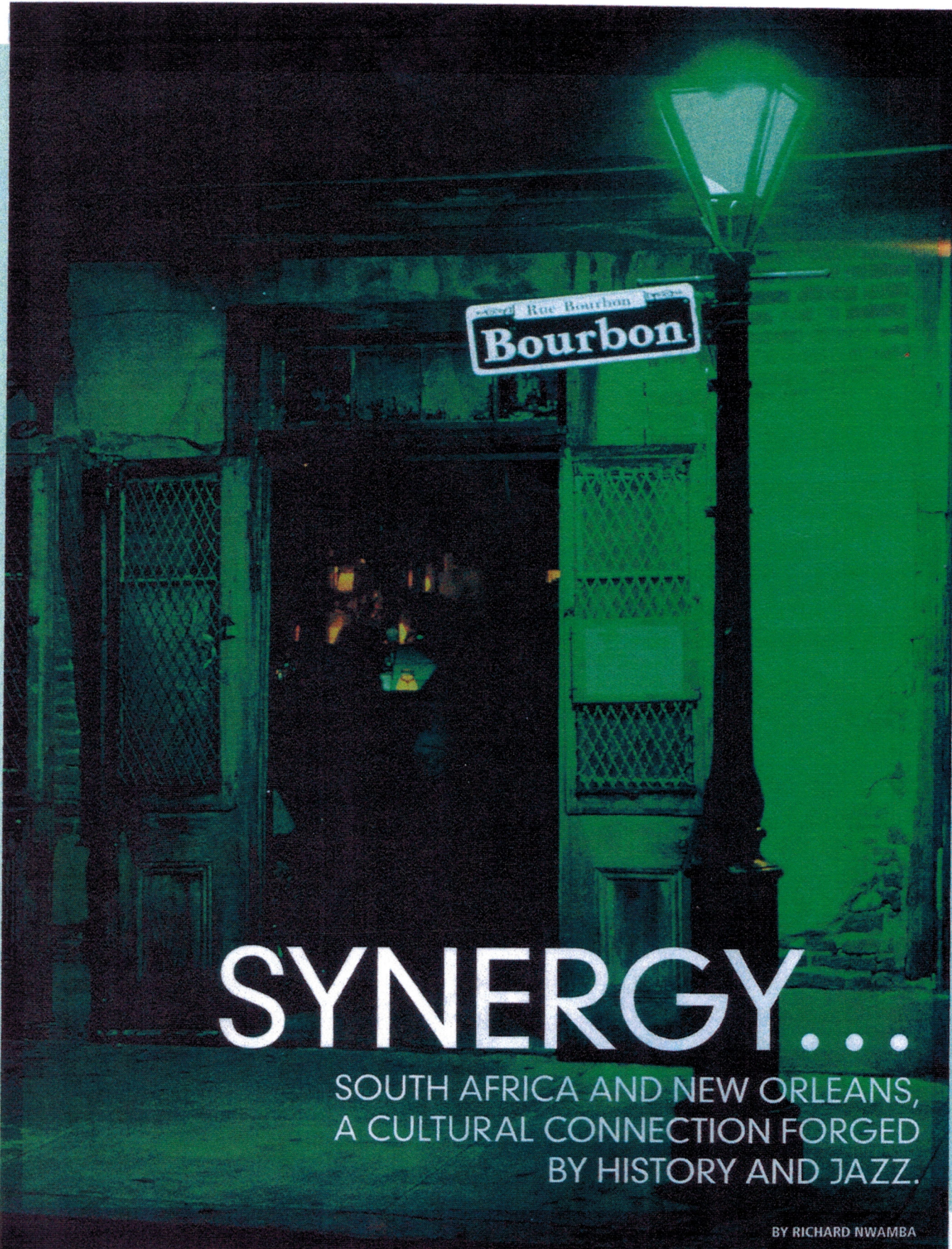
Global Film Studio Inc. has been federally incorporated in Canada on August 5th, 2011. It is a financing, holding and film distribution company with a world spectrum.

Global Film Studio invests in, markets and distributes nonviolent, ethical and socially conscious entertainment in dramatic format and it remains committed to foster the production of films that raise the attention of today's general public and world leaders on subjects and social issues of our time.

The Company, currently private, is being prepared for public listing on a superior market, via IPO.

The Company will invest 65 million dollars in financing the production of films and over one million dollars in talents' engagement fees. Brasov Talent Agency is a division of Global Film Studio Inc.

www.globalfilmstudio.com



SYNERGY...

SOUTH AFRICA AND NEW ORLEANS,
A CULTURAL CONNECTION FORGED
BY HISTORY AND JAZZ.

BY RICHARD NWAMBA

NewOrleansOnline.com



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When South African ambassador to the United States, Ebrahim Rasool, spoke about Sasol, a South African petro chemical company, planning to invest \$10 billion on an energy plant in Westlake, New Orleans in May last year, it signalled the normalisation of relations between New Orleans and South Africa.

For 33 years, the city of New Orleans in Louisiana wanted nothing to do with apartheid South Africa. And now South African investors are as welcome in that flood-prone city as the musicians who grace both the annual New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and the New Orleans International Arts Festival. But this has not been one-way traffic.

As Rasool spoke in the United States, a business delegation from New Orleans was being feted in the port city of Durban. Indeed, some of the world's biggest airlines are now offering what they describe as "cheap flights" from New Orleans to Johannesburg as well as from New Orleans to Cape Town.

But it is in music, especially jazz, where the synergy between South Africa and New Orleans has been most noticeable. Why? What common ground do the people of South Africa and New Orleans share? Well, first of all, New Orleans is the birthplace of jazz and so anyone who loves and plays jazz will, inevitably, have a connection with this culturally-rich American city.

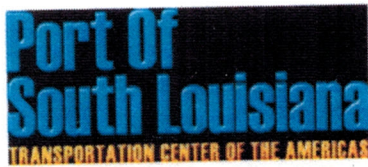
BUT IT IS IN MUSIC, ESPECIALLY JAZZ, WHERE THE SYNERGY BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND NEW ORLEANS HAS BEEN MOST NOTICEABLE.

Secondly, New Orleans has a large population of Americans of African descent. This means that the inhabitants of that city could not ignore the policy of apartheid that discriminated against their brethren in the old South Africa. With the demise of apartheid it became necessary for New Orleans to take the lead in not only welcoming the new South Africa with open arms, but making sure that the cultural links, severed during apartheid, were re-established.

For that reason, a man called Damon J Batiste, a native of New Orleans, undertook more than 48 trips to South Africa, culminating in the creation of what came to be called NOSACONN – New Orleans South Africa Connection – and needless to say, Batiste is its president and cultural ambassador. The body's main aim was to facilitate a cultural music exchange, among other things.

South African stars such as the late Miriam Makeba, Hugh Masekela, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Selaelo Selota, Jimmy Dlodlu, Prince Kupi and Musi Manzini performed in New Orleans as part of this exchange. Just recently, Ernie Smith, Umoja and Zamajobe did the same.

You can rest assured that more will follow in years to come. South Africa has, in turn, seen a steady number of American stars performing in the country's main jazz festivals. Yes, the synergy between South Africa and New Orleans is as strong as the African roots in jazz!



**COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA
AND
NEW ORLEANS SOUTH AFRICAN CONNECTION**

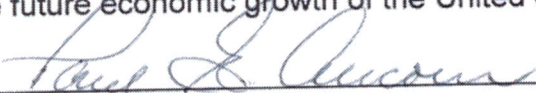
WHEREAS, The Port of South Louisiana is the largest tonnage Port in the United States serving as the center for trade and shipping on the Mississippi River.

WHEREAS, New Orleans South African Connection, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 not for profit organization promoting music, art, culture, film, digital media, technology, trade and education for economic development and tourism between the USA and Africa.

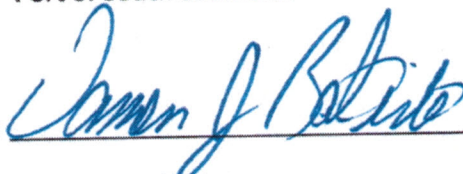
WHEREAS, both parties agree to work together in an effort to enhance future economic growth in the United States and other foreign countries such as South Africa, Brazil, Dominican Republic, France and Morocco by forming a business, educational and cultural relationship.

WHEREAS, the relationship established herein may contribute to the mutual understanding and enhancement of international trade and further other beneficial relationships between the Port, the United States of America and other foreign countries in the fields of both cultural and economic development.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Port of South Louisiana and the New Orleans South Africa Connection, Inc. do hereby agree to cooperate with one another in an effort to further enhance the future economic growth of the United States of America.

PSL: 
Paul G. Aucoin
Executive Director
Port of South Louisiana

Date: 9/11/14

NOSACONN: 
Damon J. Batiste
Chief Executive Officer and Founder
New Orleans South African Connection

Date: 9-23-2014