

JETHRO LOUW

Jethro is thin, wears short dreadlocks and is missing his top front teeth.

In fact Jethro is a poet and a former Western Province athlete. He writes and performs in English and Afrikaans. For the last few years he has been performing both solo and as part of the Khoi Khollektif. The Khollektif is a group of musicians and poets gathered under their Khoisan heritage and desire to rewrite the disturbed representation of the Bushmen people and their culture. The Khollektif includes Garth Erasmus, Loit Sôls, and Leslie Javan.

Jethro has achieved high acclaim in Cape Town, recording and releasing as part of the Wondergigs live recording series in 2002, featuring on various Cape Town Festival stages and at poetry events such as Urban Voices. He is regularly invited by government to perform at events relating to arts, culture and language - he was a feature of the 2002 World Trade Summit in Johannesburg. During the era of the Monday night poetry sessions – at Café Camissa and then at Papa's – Jethro established himself as one of the city's most compelling voices.

F A B R I C A

Jethro loves to walk. One year he walked from Cape Town to Grahamstown to perform on the street and sell self-produced copies of his poetry. He regularly walks home to Kalkfontein from the city centre, a distance of some 35 minutes by car from the City. The walking, he says, provides good time to get inside Cape Town lifestyles. To think and compose poetry.

Jethro hosts the Coffee Beans Route in Kalkfontein, a tourism initiative that seeks to uplift the Kalkfontein community. It is creating jobs, not only in tourism but in other sectors too. Jethro's poetry is at the centre of this initiative.

For more on Jethro, maybe to sample some of his music, visit www.coffeebeans.co.za/music_jethro.htm