Same But Not Different
The repetition of routine is the catalyst for variations to occur. These differences are the evidence of the process of repetition and exist because there is, more rather than less, in common with each other. Using everyday rituals as a starting point the work explores how they can become fervent and take on an importance not necessarily given by others.

Performances:
- The National Arts Festival - Grahamstown 2010
- FNB Dance Umbrella 2009
- Unplugged Origins 2009
- Awarded a Standard Bank Ovation 2010
**Ntsoana** is a Contemporary Dance based organisation committed to exploring the diverse and evolving South African cultures through the medium of contemporary dance and its relationship to other art disciplines. Ntsoana aims to promote the necessity and importance of cultural heritage and aims to express these experiences through the dance and performing arts.

Ntsoana was formally registered as a non-profit organisation in 2006 under the Artistic Directorship of internationally renowned choreographer and dancer, Sello Pesa. Over the years, Ntsoana’s projects have included a Training and Development Programming which has focused both on training dancers and choreographers and performances at local South African festivals such as The Dance Umbrella, Arts Alive Festival, HIV/AIDS Festival, The National Arts Festival and Jomba! Contemporary Dance Experience. The company has been invited to perform in Mozambique, the Netherlands, and Germany and has been involved in several choreographic workshop programmes as well as cross-cultural, interdisciplinary interventions both locally (in Gugulethu, Johannesburg, Soweto and Alexandra Townships) and internationally in Germany.

Ntsoana has also undertaken performance projects in public spaces such as the Johannesburg Art Gallery, The Alf Kumalo Museum, Hector Pieterson Memorial, The Drill Hall, Museum Africa, Power Park and the Library in Sebokeng and endeavors to take dance and art into accessible spaces. The 2010 In House Project saw various dance and performance art works performed in Soweto, Alexandra Township and Johannesburg’s Northern Suburbs and was invited to be performed as part of the University of Cape Town’s Gordon Institute of Performing Arts colloquium, Emerging Modernities in 2011.

**Sello Pesa** is the Artistic Director of Ntsoana Contemporary Dance Theatre and is interested in the changes and challenges that arise from living in South Africa. He toured South Africa and Europe with the Soweto Dance Theatre and received a scholarship to study at the Northern Contemporary Dance School in Leeds. Sello co-founded Inzalo Dance Theatre and was co-director until 2002 after which he spent four years collaborating with French choreographer Valerie Berger in Reunion Island.

Sello’s works have toured internationally – *Same but Different* won the Sanga II African Contemporary Dance Competition in Madagascar and was performed as part of Movement (R)evolution In and Out of Africa which toured the USA.

He has been commissioned to create works for Yorkshire Dance, the American Dance Festival, the FNB Dance Umbrella, Arts Alive and the Small World Festival (Russia). He is a highly sought-after teacher and has conducted choreographic workshops on behalf of the FNB Dance Umbrella, at the Small World Festival in Russia, at the Tanzfabrik – Berlin and at the Attakkalari Biennial in India.

2008-2010 saw Sello working with Carlos Pez and Tanzfabrik Berlin on the Cross Currents and Sharpshark Activities Projects which took place in South Africa and Berlin. He has performed his solo *After Tears* in Berlin, at the Julidans Festival in Amsterdam and at the Attakkalari Biennial in India.

Sello enjoys exploring new ways of working and pushing the boundaries of his experience which led to the collaboration with Peter van Heerden (erf {B1} Cultural Collective) in creating the controversial *Time of the Small Berries* for the FNB Dance Umbrella. Sello was inspired by Jay Pather to participate in visual artist Vaughn Sadie’s project *Performing the Street Lamp* which led to their collaboration in *Inhabitant*.

In 2010 Sello created *Lime Light on Rites* in partnership with the Goethe Institute which was performed at GoetheonMain and at the Jomba! Contemporary Dance Experience; *Same But Not Different* was toured to the National Arts Festival and the In House Project took place in Jo’burg and its surrounding Townships. The In House Project was invited to be performed as part of the Colloquium Emerging Modernities held at the University of Cape Town in 2011.
Humphrey Maleka was born and raised in Soweto, Johannesburg. He started pantsula and other township dance forms at a young age and while in high school he and his friends introduced a new dance language called ghetto rough. In 1991 a Moving Into Dance graduate introduced Humphrey to the Afro Fusion and contemporary dance styles. It was through this connection that Humphrey met Alexandra le Maitre and began to study Flamenco; he has attended seminars with Flamenco masters Domingo Ortega and Carmela Greco and has performed in several Flamenco productions with Lina Dolores Vega, Ritmo Spanish Dance Company and Camino Arts Project.

In 2006 Humphrey was accepted into Ntsoana’s Training and Development Programme after which he became a member of the company. As a company member of Ntsoana, Humphrey has performed in and participated in all of Ntsoana’s projects; he has performed at the FNB Dance Umbrella, the Arts Alive Festival, Jomba! Contemporary Dance Experience, The National Arts Festival and The HIV/AIDS when life Happens Festival. He has toured to Mozambique and the Netherlands and was part of the Cross Currents project which took place both in South Africa and Germany.

Humphrey has participated in various choreographic workshops and in 2010 choreographed his first solo work Naka tša go rwešwa which was performed at GoetheonMain, as part of the In House Project and at Emerging Modernities.

Brian Mtembu was born in Alexandra Township, Johannesburg. His artistic career began in 2003 when he joined the community theatre group ‘Beauty of Nature Theatre Productions’ where he was involved in music and acting.

In 2004 he was introduced to different genres of dance, i.e. Contemporary, Jazz, Modern and Afro Fusion and in 2005 he joined Kazi Ballet Academy where he was taught ballet by Penelope Thloloe from Ballet Theatre Afrikan after which he joined the Johannesburg Youth Ballet and performed in a number of ballet productions such as Polovtsian Dances, Circle by Rulov Senekal and appeared as the Wolf in the 2010 production of Peter and the Wolf for the Arts Alive Festival.

In 2008 he joined Ntsoana Contemporary Dance Theatre for the tour of Extract of X’s 2 to the Afro Vibes Festival in the Netherlands and in Mozambique. After the tour Brian became a member of Ntsoana and has performed in Totems, Same But Not Different, Moving Rituals and Lime Light on Rites.

In 2010 he performed with Ntsoana at the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown and at Jomba! Contemporary Dance Experience in Durban; he was part of the SharpSharp {Laboratory} Performances held in Alexandra Township and was instrumental in organizing the performances in Alexandra Township which formed part of the In House Project. Brian choreographed the solo Dithokgako which was performed on the Solo Works programme in Sebokeng and as part of the In House Project and Emerging Modernities.
Same But Not Different

35 minute trio

SITE:

The work is site specific and requires an open performance space. If the work takes place in an auditorium/theatre the audience and performance takes place on the stage with no wings or coverings, the stage should appear bare and open.

PROPS:

- 1 x trestle tables
- 5 x hand held microphones
- 2 x 5 litre bottles of water per performance
- 1 x glass jug
- 1 x glass
- 3 x chairs

Performers to bring:

- 2 x Buckets
- Drum
- Black cloth

LIGHTS:

A basic lighting rig is required.
A full blackout is required.
House Lights will be used

SOUND:

1 x CD player.
1 x clip mic for the drum

Please Note:

The work is site specific in nature and can adapt to the venue and conditions that it will be performed in.
Performers

Humphrey Maleka, Brian Mtembu, Sello Pesa

This work adapts to the performance space and conditions and as such is subject to alteration according to the circumstances.